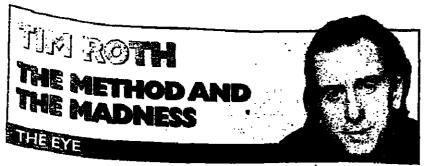
Pienaar accused in Luyt's outburst



DEATH BY BURGER THE DIARY OF A **FAST-FOOD JUNKIE**

FEATURES, PAGE 19

SUZANNE MOORE WHAT MAKES A MANA REAL MAN?

COMMENT, PAGE 21



INDEP ENT

A nation descends into anarchy



A man lies before the riot police who shot him during rioting in Jakarta yesterday; top right, he is carried away from the scene. The condition of the victim was not known. Last night fires were still burning across the city centre Photographs: Achmad lbrahim/AP



THE FUTURE of President Suharto of Indonesia was in grave doubt last night after mounting popular unrest erupted in riots which devastated large areas of Jakarta and left the capital in a state of near anarchy.

The President was due to fly mio jakarta inis morning, ante reports in Indonesian newspapers that he will step down if he no longer had the "trust" of his people.

"If I am no longer trusted I will become a sage, and endeavour to get close to God," he was quoted as saying during a state visit to Egypt which was cut short by the escalating disturbances. "I will spend my time guiding my children so they become good people, guide the community and give advice."

President Suharto has in the past made similar statements. and his remarks were downplayed by his foreign minister, Ali Alatas. But in the President's absence there appeared to be a vacuum of power in the world's fourth biggest nation, as mobs of looters sacked large areas of the city unchecked by police or

Tanks and armoured cars were seen driving through the centre of town last night, and the Jakarta military commander, Major General Syafrie Syamsudin promised to "face rioters and looters firmly".

Potential successors to the President - including senior generals and opposition figures - made no public statements about the political situation and appeared to be biding their time. "The situation is going to improve," said General Wiranto, the chief of the armed forces. "Please believe in the military." What began three days ago

Richard Lloyd Parry sees Jakarta ravaged by street mobs as the people

as a peaceful student demonstration has transformed itself in the past 48 hours into something that defies easy categorisation - part political protest. part pillage and part ethnic pogrom. Jakarta has been tense since Tuesday night when six students were shot dead by police breaking up a demonstration at private university. On

Wednesday, mobs of ordinary

Jakartans rampaged along two

Inside How Suharto turned a country into a family firm Page 3 Leading article

streets adjoining the campus. Yesterday, after a night in which at least 11 people were burned alive after mobs set their homes alight, the anarchy spread throughout the city.

— Page 20

For miles the streets of Jakarta look like the set of a disaster film. Hundreds of shops, houses, public buildings, police stations, hotels, shopping centres and markets were burned. Among them were a Heineken beer brewery, the home of Liem Side Liong, one of Indonesia's richest men and a close friend of President Subarto, and the ports of only a handful of deaths

of Indonesia turn against their dictator or injuries by the end of the day. headquarters of the social affairs ministry which is run by the pres-By the afternoon, there was

> Shoos and businesses closed down in most parts of central Jakarta. The toll road to the airport was closed, stranding many passengers in their hotels, and many outbound flights were filled up with retreating ex-patriates and ethnic Chinese Indonesians who are often scapegoated in times of unrest.

ident's daughter, Siti Hardiyan-

The Indonesian currency, the runiah, whose collapse last summer set off economic turmoil throughout the country, fell steeply, further jeopardising the programme of economic reform and recovery agreed between the government and the International Monetary Fund.

By mid-morning yesterday, Gajah Mada Street, a main road linking central Jakarta with Chinatown and the docks to the north was empty of motorists as the looters set to work. Just before noon, a squadron of 30 helmeted troops on motorbikes roared out of the

smoke towards the north. Suddenly, the silhouettes of soldiers became visible firing into the air and taking level aim at people on the streets. Everyone ran for cover, the rounds fired were either blanks or the rubber coated bullets which have claimed several lives this week. But there were confirmed re-

explain their actions in political terms. "It's revenge for what the military did to the students," said one man who identified himself as Danny. "Nepotism and corruption," shouted someone else.

hardly a pane of glass left un-

smashed. Dozens of cars were

burned out or burning. For miles

there were no police or soldiers

to be seen and in several parts of

the city the red-bereted marines,

traditionally the favourites of or-

dinary people, were seen joining

Individual motivation is dif-

ficult to fathom, but even the

hands with looters.

"The Chinese have debts, and we have to o other man.

most opportunistic of the rioters

A disproportionate number of the reported dead have been Chinese, and if racist sentiment catches hold among the Muslim majority then a truly dreadful situation looms. But the most vehement abuse was reserved for the President. An 18-year-old woman, Linda Putri, screwed up her face and spat out the words, "I hate Pak [Father] Harto."

Family nation, page 3

Will you be watching the Cup Final this weekend, or

forming a human chain for Jubilee 2000 at the G8 summit,

as

or following our student teachers in Channel 5's

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Talking in Class' on Sundays at 7.00 pm? Hope creates

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Blair takes tougher line in Ulster

By David McKittrick and Kim Sengupta

hearing

ikes 14 moves ond...

Ring Freephone

Applications

TONY BLAIR yesterday signalled a new and more exacting government line on testing the republican movement's commitment to purely democratic means of action in an attempt to boost Protestant support for the Good Friday agreement.

Visiting Belfast in an effort to persuade the large numbers of Unionists who are undecided on how to vote in next Fri-; day's referendum, he promised legislation aimed at ensuring that the IRA's so-called war is "finished, done with, gone".

INSIDE GUIDE:

He listed a range of factors, including the dismantling of paramilitary structures and cooperation on arms decommissioning, which he said the Government would put into legislation. But in a meticulously worded speech he appeared to stop short of specifying what Unionist critics of the accord want - making IRA decommissioning a formal requirement be-

fore Sinn Fein can be admitted into a new administration. In his speech he made only a glancing reference to the early release of prisoners, which has led to much Unionist criticism.

This sentiment may be exacer-

bated by the release, on four-day home leave, of the notorious gunman Michael Stone.

Mr Blair said there had to be a clear commitment that violence was over for good, with an end to bombings, killings and beatings and an end to targeting and procurement of weapons.

But in a balancing section of his speech he added: "We are not setting new preconditions or barriers. On the contrary, we want as many people as possible to use the agreement as their bridge across to an exclusively peaceful path."

Mr Blair's increased pressure on republicans found an echo

in Dublin where the Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, declared: "People are entitled to an absolute assurance that the conflict is over, that weapons will not be used again by either the parties owning them or allowed to fall into the wrong hands."

Mr Blair's waikabout and talk at the Belfast Balmoral Show was not quite the slick production one expects from new Labour. His speech was broadcast at strategic points outside. But much of it was indistinct and accompanied by neighing of horses and mooing of cattle.

Many of those present, however, waited in the belief that Mr a question-and-answer session. In the event, this was cancelled at the last moment, and the PM and his entourage made a quick exit from the back of the stands.

Robert Fraser, a Protestant farm manager, said he had wanted clarification about aspects of the speech. "(Blair) was going on about reviews on the rules of the settlement including decommissioning. Who is going to be doing that? ... I wanted him to stand here and answer these questions. It seems to me he is only ready for things his people

are carefully setting up." Loyalist released, page 2

Lawrence plea

In brief

THE five suspects in the racist

murder of Stephen Lawrence are to seek judicial review of a public inquiry's order that they attend the hearing and answer questions. Page 2

Microsoft talks

MICROSOFT was negotiating in Washington yesterday in a bid to fend off a potentially crippling action by the US government. Page 23



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Graca Machel: My life with Nelson Mandela

Simon Calder: in search of the real Japan TIME OFF

■ Save the Jersey Pink: British plants on the danger list ISM Magazine

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t newspapers in the first half of 1997.

Schools make room for morals

By Judith Judd

LESSONS in citizenship, moral values and preparation for adult life should play an important part in a new, slimmer national curriculum from the year 2000, the Government said yesterday. David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, announced a top-to-bottom review of the curriculum for pupils aged three to 16.

He made it clear that he wants to give teachers more freedom to decide which subjects to teach and how to teach them. Though lessons in core subjects such as English, maths and probably science, will be prescribed in detail by the Government, schools will have a much freer hand with the other seven subjects in the present curriculum. That will enable ministers to carry forward plans to let under-achieving 14-yearolds spend most of their time in the workplace or college rather

than at school. It will also mean that schools will be able to find time for subjects such as citizenship, morals and sex and drugs education which Mr Blunkett is determined to promote. Subjects such as technology, French, history and music may be sidelined to make room for lessons which will prepare pupils for

Suggestions from Government advisory groups examining creative and cultural education may also be incorporated into the timetable.

Mr Blunkett has asked his advisers at the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority to carry out the review. With teachers already under pressure from a series of new Government initiatives, he is anxious to persuade them that he does not nature of society. The task bewant a root-and-branch over- fore us is to ensure that the na-

ing at a different approach for the 45,000 pupils who leave school each year without any qualifications. He also wants the curriculum authority to look again at the guidelines on how under-fives should be

Literacy and numeracy targets for 11-year-olds are the centrepiece of the Government's strategy for raising standards and ministers want ttersery children to be wellprepared for reading and maths when they arrive in school re-

ception classes. promised that there would be no major changes to the curriculum before the year 2000 after a major review undertaken by Sir Ron Dearing three years

However, Mr Blunkett, who is determined that schools will meet literacy and nameracy targets, tore up the primary curriculum earlier this year and announced that primary schools

would not have to follow. He said yesterday: "It is essential that schools be allowed to concentrate on raising standards. They will not be able to achieve this if the review of the curriculum brings with it excessive disruption and upheaval in schools.

"We want to see a national curriculum that allowed teachers the flexibility to address key priorities during a child's school career and ensures a proper place for their preparation for adult life, including education

for citizenship." William Stubbs, the authority's chairman, said: "The review which is about to start does so against a background of great advances in technology, changes in the shape of work and in the



Michael Stone in prison. His crimes included a murderous attack at the funeral of IRA members killed by the SAS

Photograph: Brian Harris

Temporary release for loyalist killer

By David McKittrick

Ireland Correspondent MICHAEL STONE, released temporarily from prison yesterday, is a one-man loyalist

equivalent of the IRA's Balcombe Street gang: a symbol from the heyday of extreme Protestant violence, of killing on a large scale.

The rapturous reception given to the Balcombe Street people at last week's Sinn Fein ard-fineis offended many Protestants and is perceived as a setback for the Yes campaign in

next Friday's referendums on the Good Friday agreement. The sight of Stone may re- near-suicide mission which al- way and he was beaten uncon- made him, a celebrity in the we've been pushing.

a special Protestant detesta-

hat feeling, for, w

tion is reserved for republican prisoners, his appearance will serve as a reminder of one of the sections of the accord which

most troubles Unionist voters. This is the controversial provision that, if all goes well with the agreement, Stone and all other prisoners whose parent paramilitary organisations are on ceasefire can expect release

by the middle of the year 2000 at the latest. He became an icon of loyalist terror because he killed six Catholics, because his extraordinary attack on a republican funeral was photographed and

most ended in his own death.

World weather more

March 1988 as republicans buried three IRA activists who had been shot dead by the SAS of his pursuers and injured a toin Gibraltar. While one of the tal of 60 people with his coffins was being lowered into grenades and bullets, including

grenades at the thousands of mourners. As the crowds took cover he fired shots from two handguns way several hundred yards away. After the initial confusion he was pursued by several hundred republican youths, whom

did I kill?" He had killed three the grave. Stone threw hand a 10-year-old boy, a grand-

mother and a pregnant woman. At his trial he pleaded not guilty but offered no defence, which meant the prosecution then jogged towards a motor-, had to present all its evidence. giving maximum publicity to the details of his career. It emerged that he had carried out three earlier killings of Catholics and Secretary, Mo Mowlams televised, and because it was a thin as he reached the motor. Martin McGuinness: All this about dialogue and that which

scious before being rescued by backstreets of the loyalist ghet- get through this situa

The incident took place in an RUC patrol. When he came toes. Gifts and fan-mail were loyalists, anything's possible."

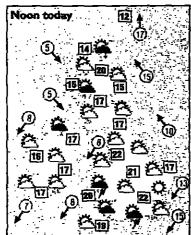
"How many of the bastards

Belfast's Milltown cemetery in round, his first question was: sent to him in the Maze prison; while a regular stream of stories in the Northern Ireland tabloid press kept him in the public eye.

> It is said locks of his hair have been raffled in loyalist clubs. His 10 years in the jail seem to have mellowed him somewhat, for, although he lives within walls plastered with the regalia of paramilitarism, he is thought of now as a comparative moderate. In January this year he was among prisoners

who met the Northern Ireland he held off with occasional conspired to murder many. Speaking to journalists, at gunfire. Some caught up with more, including Sinn Fein's that time, he said: It's all

WEATHER



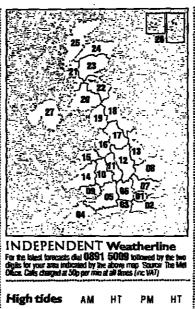
Misty or loggy at first in parts of England and Wale with overnight thundery showers langering for a while in parts of the south and west. They will clear away but Northern Ireland and northern and western Scotland will keep a few scattered showers, some heavy over the mountains. Sharp showers and isolated thunderstorms may return to south-west England and Wales late in the day but most places will see spells of sunshine with only the stight chance of shower.

Outlook for the next few days Any showers hanging on over north-western Scotland will die away, leaving a fine and dry few days with most places seeing plenty of sunshine. The hot and humid conditions that some parts have been experiencing will be somewhat tempered but it will still feel warm. The wind will be from the north-east, so North Sea coasts will be skohtly cooler with a little more cloud at times. Overnight fog may become a problem inland.

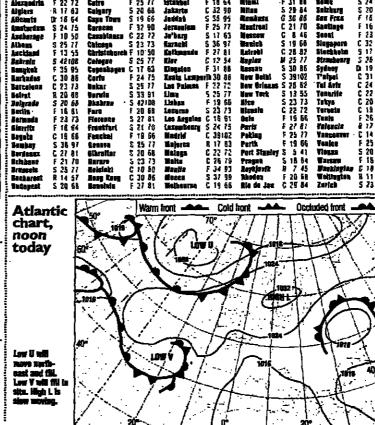
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But he is committed to look- the changing world."

"What types of mortgage are there?



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HARTSTON WEATHER WISE

WHAT GLORIOUS weather we're having! Unless, of course, you happen to be in Weymouth, where the basement of the police station was flooded by storms on Wednesday night and prisoners had to be transferred to Dorchester. As I was saying: What glo-

rious weather we're having! Unless you live in Wareham, where a bolt of lightning stuck a chimney pot in South Street and a house in West Street was also hit by lightning. But apart from the elec-

trical storms in Dorset - which

out power, and many more without sleep as alarms were set off unpredictably, and resulted in the county's firefighters being called out 112 times on Wednesday night apart from those, we're really having some excellent weather - apart from the flood alert in Somerset, or if you're one of those poor chaps trying to play golf in Oxfordshire, where thunderstorms delayed the start of the Benson & Hedges International.

left thousands of homes with-

There's a good deal of fog around, of course, and some smog as ground-level clouds prevent smoke and carexhaust fumes from escaping into the upper atmosphere, and there are some storms brewing in France that are on their way over here. But the important thing is that Southampton recorded 28.6C on Wednesday, the highest temperature recorded on 13

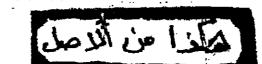
So for any readers soaking in Dorset, golfing in Oxfordshire, shivering in York, or even colder in Newcastle, the ruessage is clear: just lie back and think of Southampton.

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What if something goes wrong

Posicode Posicode Daytune tel no. (inc 510) Are you I first time buyer? I Yes 4 No (please tick) Are you 2 Midland customer? Yes No (please tick). If so please supply your sort code 40 1 would like to be contacted



The secretive ruler who turned his country into a family business

By Rupert Cornwell

THE BAPAK he used to be called by a grateful nation - the "father" of Indonesia. He is secretive and shy, almost mystical estimates range from \$5bn to as accumulated a vast personal forin his ways. His style is as mod-much as \$30bn - an amount est as that of his predecessor, equal Sukarno, was flamboyant If needs be, he can be ruthless. But as measured in those happier his true mastery lies in playing one rival off against another, in turning silence and secrecy into tools of power. Thus, amid rumour and shadows. President Suharto has ruled the fourth most populous country in the world for a third of a century. But now the Bapak looks about to be brought down by something the mightiest autocrat cannot control: the global economy of the 20th century.

Suharto's Indonesia has been a mutant Asian tiger. Outwardly, it has obeyed the principles of the market, fostered by a group of Californiatrained technocrats called the "Berkeley Mafia"; but in truth suffused with economic nationalism, and perverted by cronyism and rank corruption.

The beneficiaries include an inner circle of businessmen, prospering mightily from government contracts, and licences and protection, in return for financial support for the regime. The innermost circle of all, however, is the Suharto family.

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Just how much the four of his Y six children - Tommy, Siti, Sig- as that of another practitioner

have accumulated through their cuted in the coup of Christmas interests in telecommunications, 1989. The closest parallel perhotels, cars and a host of other sectors may only be guessed. The

seventh of the entire economy days of 1996, when a dollar fetched only 2,300 rupiah. Today with the exchange rate at 11,000 rupiah, and given the probabil-

tune until being ousted in 1986 by a popular revolt in the Philippines, similar to the one in Indonesia today. One thing though is certain. Whether this mechanism for

haps, geographically and polit-

perpetual family enrichment can continue, depends now on ity that the Subartos have been the military out of which Subar-Suharto's future depends

on the military out of

which he grew. The army

made him. It is now the arbiter of his fate

able to hedge their currency to grew. Born into a devout Musbets, the ramshackle national economy could be more than central Java, he spent a childever, the family business.

word for it; unlike President a militia created by the Japan-Mobutu, fallen father of another, African, nation, Suharto's sia's wartime occupiers only rule has seen a steady improvement in his people's economic lot. Like Lenin, he can boast of bringing electricity to every village. Nor has his rule been as brutal and suffocating of rampant nepotism, Nicolae

lim family near Yogyakarta in hood of great poverty. The army Kleptocracy is not quite the he joined in 1942, aged 21, was ese. But serving under Indonehardened the love of discipline and order, and the sense of na-

> By 1945 he was fighting to drive out the Japanese, and by 1949 he had helped secure Indonesia's independence from Dutch colonial power. He rose

tion that marks him to this day.

the mocking acronym has it) - Ceausescu of Romania, exe- steadily through the ranks, to be- down to ordinary people to come commander of the strategic reserve in 1962. Three years later as President Sukarno sided ically, is President Marcos, who with the Communists, came the celebrated but still not fully explained coup, whose failure would topple him. In 1967, Suharto became president, the only change of regime in the country's modern history.

> an unspoken fear underpinned his rule: that without the guiding hand of the Bapak, all would revert to the shambles from which he rescued the country. The events of 1965, when the bodies of four generals were thrown down a well at Halim Air Force Base near Jakarta, and a vengeful army used the pretext to permit the slaughter of thousands of ethnic Chinese are etched in the collective folk memory.

No matter Suharto, as chiefof-staff, may have presided over the killing. He had restored order. It was his good fortune also that the first period of his rule coincided with the growth of Indonesia's oil industry. Thanks to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) and political upheavals in the Middle East, oil prices in the 1970s tripled, and then tripled again. Pertamina, the state oil company became a power in the region - and a byword for corruption

But enough wealth and pub-

keep them content. By now the country was self-sufficient in rice. And when the oil boom bust in the mid-1980s, Suharto was astute enough to switch into textiles and the other manufacturing industries that were making the fortune of South Korea and the earlier Asian tigers. The rest was inevitable: In the decades that followed, a flood of foreign investment from a West rejoicing in his anti-Communism, giant projects, extravagant patronage and even more extravagant corruption. But last year the bubble burst, and Suharto had forgotten one thing: democracy.

Not only does absolute power corrupt absolutely; it destroys a man's sense of his own fallibility, his ability to leave the stage at the appointed moment. A ruler's greatest disservice is to leave no obvious and credible successor.

Thus it has been with Suharto. He has endowed Indonesia with a middle class. But the history of middle classes the world over is that, sooner or later, they demand a say in running things. He has been intermittently ill but has made no gesture to mortality, securing his re-election to the Presidency only two months ago. He has seen his economy descend into chaos, but has been unable to recognise that the problem is of his own making.

His last chance, with the financial markets and the International Monetary Fund at his door, lay in the government he appointed in March. It might have been an attempt to prepare the future without him, containing figures of probity and sound economic credentials. Instead it was stuffed with cronies. Unfortunately economic collapse has drained what was left of public loyalty.

No longer are the people afraid: any evil is lesser than Suharto. That is the vice in which President Subarto is caught. The army made him. The



army is now the arbiter of his fate. President Suharto: His mastery lies in playing one rival off against another



1 Hutomo Mandala Putra, also known as Tommy or sometimes Toshiba; estimated worth \$600m, much earned from the franchise for the national "Timor" car. Sight Harioludanto, estimated worth \$450m.

Bambang Trihatmodjo, astimated worth \$3bn. (5) The late first lady Tien Suharto, who died in April 1996.

(6) Skil Hardijanti Rulmana, also known as Tutur, worth some hundreds of millions of dollars. much made as an "agent" smoothing the way for foreign companies investing in Indonesia.

Anger at continuing arms trade

By Fran Abrams Political Correspondent.

MORE THAN 50 batches of

British arms have been sold to Indonesia since Labour announced its new "ethical" foreign policy, it was confirmed The Suharto regime in

Jakarta, where riots have raged since six students were shot dead during a demonstration on which followed the shootings. cences.

British ministers say they

tions for arms since May 1997, Assion." while approving 56.

Yesterday, the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, denied that Britain was breaching its policy of not exporting arms which might be used for internal repression. He said: "Sadly it appears to be the case that some of the equipment being used against those rioters is sold from Britain. It would not have Tuesday, has been condemned been sold under the new criteacross the world. Many more ria we brought in and under people have been killed in riots which we have refused seven li-

"There has been a big difare "concerned" about the sit- ference in what we would sell. only broad categories are givnation and are monitoring it, but We have made quite clear that en. Fighter jets are in the same they have turned down just we will not sell equipment that category as crash helmets and

The fact that Europe was watching visiting and monitoring the situation in Indonesia amounted to important diplomatic pressure, he said. The only picture of Mr Cook featured in his first armual report on burnan rights shows him shaking hands with President Suharto.

Yesterday, MPs increased pressure on ministers to allow parliamentary scrutiny of arms sales and for full details to be disclosed. Even now, it is not possible to tell what arms have been sold to Indonesia because

seven export licence applica- will be used for internal re- flamethrowers are listed alongside safety flares.

> David Heath, Liberal Democrat MP for Somerton and Frome, said the system of releasing information was hopeless: "You can't tell whether what is being sold is a packet of screws or an armoured car."

> Ann Clwyd, Labour MP for Cynon Valley, said Hawk jets given licences under the Tories were being delivered to Indonesia this month. The Government should "presume against" all arms exports to the regime, she said. "Indonesia has a corrupt, rotten government with a terrible record on human rights and we should not be selling arms there."

Chief Rabbi gives his blessing to the joys of kosher sex

By Paul McCann

THE CHIEF RABBI, Dr Jonathan Sacks, has shocked the which broadens the kinds of sex new generation." permitted for Orthodox Jews.

The book, Kosher Sex, and its author, Rabbi Shmuel Boteach, have already been criticised by the highly influential head of London's Rabbinical court and the chairman of the United Synagogue's council of Rabbis.

Yet Dr Sacks's office told today's Jewish Chronicle that

more creative and imaginative talents of our community [who] has been prepared to take risks conservative Jewish community in order to communicate an by backing the author of a book authentic Jewish message to a

Kosher Sex argues that the rabbinical line restricting sex to the missionary position represents advice, not Jewish law, and that other practices are permissible if they increase intimacy between a married couple. It also examines the Jewish laws covering oral sex and masturbation.

Rabbi Boteach, American-

Rabbi Boteach is "One of the born founder of the l'Chaim Society, previously courted controversy with a book titled The Jewish Guide to Adultery. He argues that as the only religion which specifically encourages sex for pleasure, Jews need not Sacks: supporting book be squeamish about sex.

It had been reported that Dr Jewish Chronicle: "Some of the Sacks was going to ban the book. views he expresses are anthen-Some conservative leaders of the Orthodox community claim point of view, some are not." the Rabbi is wrong and that he trivialises and sensationalises sex. Rabbi Yisroel Fine, chair-



tic and sound from a rabbinical

Some observers of Jewish Orthodoxy believe the Chief Rabbi's decision is prompted by man of the United Synagogue's his concerns about Jews Rabbinical Council, told the marrying outside the faith.



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Tobias Hill, London Zoo's new poet in residence, testing his verse on a camel yesterday. Hill's post is part of a two-year programme of poetry residencies and projects at venues throughout England, funded by a grant from the Arts Council's Lottery Department Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

FO staff did not brief minister on arms inquiry

Political Correspondent

A SENIOR Foreign Office official was forced yesterday to retract information he had given MPs on the arms-to-Africa affair only hours before.

Sir John Kerr, the Permanent Under-Secretary to the department, had said he thought the Foreign Office minister Tony Lloyd was briefed that Customs and Excise were investigating Sandline before a Commons debate in March. Later, though, both he and

Mr Lloyd put out statements saying this was not true. Mr Lloyd has maintained that he did not know about the investigation until much later.

mons in March that reports of meetings between a firm of mercenaries and the British High Commissioner to Sierra informed and scurrilous. It terday morning that he discovhas since been confirmed that Mr Penfold did indeed meet Sandline International.

Last night, Sir John appeared to be in trouble for the second time in three days. He was rebuked by the Public Accounts Committee on Tuesday for suggesting that officials engaged in plea-bargaining with an accountant who stole more than £100,000 from the British

embassy in Jordan. Meanwhile, the furore over allegations that officials collaborated with the mercenaries in breaking an arms embargo while planning to reinstate President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah to power in Sierra Leone showed

no sign of abating. When asked if Mr Lloyd's briefing pack contained information about the inquiry, he told the committee: "I think it did." But later he wrote to the chairman, Donald Anderson, to say: "I have checked my memory of the briefing pack ... it mentions reports about a possible deal by President Kabbah for Sandline's services. But it does not mention arms shipments, and as I thought it does not say that one such report had already been passed to Customs

Lloyd said: "I was not then curiouser," he said.

Mr Lloyd told the Com- briefed told, advised or in any ly or in writing either of alleged arms shipments or of the Customs and Excise investigation."

Sir John also told MPs yesered Foreign Office officials were being dragged into the scandal in early April. However, he did not think it important enough to tell the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, Sir John described the allegations against his staff as "housekeeping matters".

"It would be quite wrong to create a situation where everybody who wishes to cough in the Foreign Office has to push a paper to ministers," he said.

Sir John added that officials had only one meeting with Tim Spicer, Sandline's chief executive, though they had received a number of telephone calls

"He might have some intelligence that would be useful to us. These conversations were one-way - he rang a number of times. It is clear to me that the department decided not to put the phone down on Spicer because they wanted to hear what he had to say about the situation in Sierra Leone," he said.

Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrats' foreign affairs spokesman, said an independent inquiry should be launched

as soon as possible. These events are now taking on an Alice in Wonderland dimension. The conduct of the In a separate statement, Mr Foreign Office is curiouser and

\$810 fine and community service for George Michael

GEORGE MICHAEL was fined \$810 (about £500) yesterday and ordered to perform 80 hours community service after the singer's lawyer entered a plea of no contest to a charge alleging he committed a lewd act in a Los Angeles park tolet. Michael did not appear at Beverly Hills Municipal Court.

Judge Charles Rubin banned Michael from Will Rogers State Park, where the singer was arrested last month. He also ordered Michael to undergo psychological counselling.

The court is concerned he not get into this situation again,

Michael, 34, was arrested on 7 April when an undercover Mr Rubin said. police officer allegedly saw him commit a lewd act alone in a toilet at the park, which is across the street from the Bev-

erly Hills Hotel on Sunset Boulevard. He acknowledged later that he is gay and said he was embarrassed by the arrest.

He told CNN: "I won't even say it's the first time it's happened."

E.coli strikes seventh child

A SEVENTH child has been hit by potentially fatal E.coli bacteria, thought to have affected children at a Bank Holiday party. The seven-year-old girl is a playmate of six children who have already been infected, but is well enough to be cared for at home rather than in hospital.

The bacteria – the same strain which killed 20 elderly people in Scotland - has spread since the weekend, infecting the children aged between two and nine years.

One five-year-old boy is still in a serious but stable condition at Southampton General Hospital. Four others are still undergoing treatment at Poole General Hospital but have been described as stable. The sixth is recovering at home.

Five of the children attend the same school, St George's First School, in Langton Matravers in Dorset. The school has been ruled out as a source of the outbreak. Health officials are carrying out tests on food at a tea party attended by all the affected children or their friends or siblings.

Suicide verdict on teacher

A GAMES master at a prep school committed suicide hours before he was due to face a court on child abuse charges. The body of Nick Drewett, 31, was found at his home in Reigate, Surrey.

Mr Drewett, games master at St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School in Reigate, had been due to appear at the town's magistrates' court on six charges of indecent assault.

The teacher was suspended from the 235-pupil school in March this year. He was arrested following a four-week investigation into allegations of child abuse at the £4,500-a-year school. He was charged with indecent assaults against boys at a school between July and October last year.

Antiques smuggler appeals

A SIX-YEAR jail sentence on an antiquities restorer who smuggled Egyptian antiquities by camouflaging them as cheap tourist trinkets, is to be reviewed by the Court of Appeal. Jonathan Tokeley-Parry, 47, of Winkleigh, Devon, who was jailed last June after a trial at Knightsbridge Crown Court in London, will also ask three appeal judges whether or not his convictions of handling valuable artefacts can be regarded as "safe".

Student settles on expenses

A UNIVERSITY student, who sued his estranged mother for £400 a month living expenses, has settled out of court. .

Patrick MacDonald, 20, and his mother, Margaret, who he had not seen for four years, reached an agreement yesterday at Edinburgh Sheriff Court. At a hearing last October a judge made a temporary order for the mother to pay £60 a month costs.

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Cancer drug could save thousands more lives

By Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

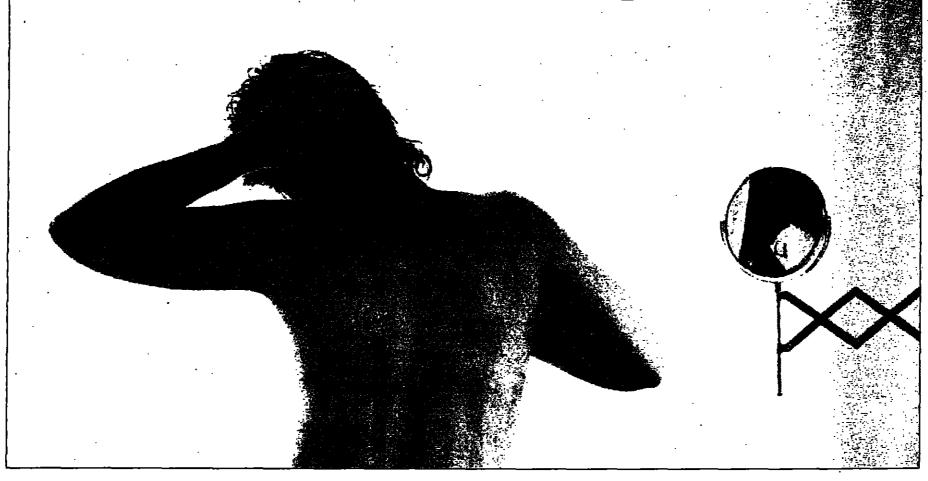
THE WORLD'S most effective anticancer drug has been underprescribed to women with breast cancer because it has been perceived to be too kind to be of any use. Twenty thousand extra lives a year worldwide could be saved if tamoxifen were more widely used.

Results from a global study of 37,000 women treated with the drug, the largest randomised study of any cancer treatment, showed that twice as many lives could be saved if tamoxifen were used twice as widely. If all the women who could benefit from the drug in Britain were prescribed it, an extra 1,000 lives a year in this country would be saved, scientists said yesterday.

Tamoxifen, which blocks the action of the hormone oestrogen, is prescribed to one million women worldwide immediately after surgery for breast cancer but could benefit hundreds of thousands more. Oestrogen can cause any breast cancer cells remaining after surgery or chemotherapy to proliferate.

Britain has led the world in prescribing the drug to post-menopausal women but there is still a belief that it is ineffective in younger, premenopausal women, unnecessary in those who have had chemotherapy or in whom the cancer has not spread beyond the breast, and is not needed for more than one to two years rather than

the recommended five years.



University said that that view was said. In the UK, the drug was already wrong on all four counts and that clin-

saving 2,000 lives a year. Professor ical practice must change. "Tamoxifen Peto added: "Often you can save more British scientists 25 years ago but gathis already saving more lives than any lives by taking seriously what you know ering the evidence of its benefits has that there was no gain without pain. increases in the risk of endometrial al because they said there were still Professor Richard Peto of Oxford other cancer drug in the world," he than with a new discovery that may

not be relevant for 20, 30 or 40 years." taken decades. Professor Peto said that

doctors had been slow to accept the The Lancet, involved assembling Tamoxifen was discovered by drug because it was not toxic like oth- data from 55 trials in 15 countries. er cancer drugs and they had believed Although the results showed small The latest findings, published in cancer (of the lining of the womb)

Self-examination (left), helps women detect lumps and catch malignancies early; research has shown that the drug tamoxifen, as well as saving lives of cancer victims, can be used as a preventative measure Photograph: John Lawrence

and of blood clots in the lungs, the drug prevented 30 times more deaths than it caused. In the UK it costs £200

for a five-year course. However, the findings only apply to women with hormone-sensitive breast cancer, 20,000 of the 30,000 new cases each year in the UK. In women who do not have hormone sensitive cancer - a quarter of those over 50 and half under 50 - the balance between the risks and benefits of tamoxifen remains unclear.

Professor Rory Collins, a study coordinator, said: "The best bet for those women is to get themselves into a randomised trial of tamoxifen."

The findings do not apply to the prevention of a first breast cancer in high-risk women, which is the subject of a separate trial. United States researchers decided to end the American arm of that trial last month after results showed the drug reduced the risk of a first breast cancer by 45 per cent. Half the women in the random trial were not on tamoxifen, and it was felt that it was unethical to keep them off the drug. British researchers this week decided to continue with the tri-

BBC in battle to safeguard **TV** integrity

Media Correspondent

and community

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on the production of docugations.

the BBC's controller of editorial policy, and including rep- whether it's a case of reiteratresentatives from the BBC's six ing firmly to producers what the ining the corporation's Pro- tency: if you talk to all the facto see if there are lessons to be what is acceptable." learnt from recent scandals.

of "reconstruction" within a guidelines. Documentary prodocumentary, where producers re-stage events that they believe to have taken place.

Recent revelations about the use of this technique have is being examined. called into question whether viewers can believe what they see on screen.

Rogue Males was revealed to constructed, then the viewer have constructed and recon- must somehow be made aware structed events for dramatic of that." A respected docueffect. This was swiftly followed mentary producer added: "It is by an acknowledgement from crucial that the credibility of docthe BBC that its popular series umentaries isn't undermined." The Driving School featured some "reconstructed" material. the production of Rogue Males, Perhaps most seriously, last 'Channel 4 issued an apology to week Carlton came under fire viewers for misleading them for allegedly manufacturing ev- and restated to staff that all reidence in an award-winning constructions must be identified. documentary about drug smug-

gling, The Connection. Guidelines, which are issued to vision has a relationship with its both in-house and external producers, state that "reconstructions should be identified clearly so that no-one is misled. .. maintain that relationship."

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Repeated labelling may be necessary to achieve this".

But the BBC's factual pro-THE BBC is reviewing its rules gramme producers, who are spread across several departmentaries after a series of em- ments throughout the country. barrassing revelations which are understood to feel that inquestioned the truth behind terpretation of the guidelines varies across the BBC.

An insider said: "The BBC A senior management has to decide whether the group, chaired by Phil Harding, guidelines themselves need to be rewritten or clarified, or factual departments, is exam-rules are. It's all about consisducers' Guidelines. According tual departments, you get a to insiders, the group is looking different sense from each of

The BBC is not alone in con-Of most concern is the use sidering the need for tighter ducers agree that across the industry, the "fine line" dividing acceptable reconstruction of a verifiable event and "faking it"

A senior industry figure said: "It doesn't matter if the programme is a 'docu-soap' or an Channel 4's documentary investigation ... If an event is re-

After an investigation into

Steve Hewlett, Channel 4's head of factual programmes and The BBC's Producers' features, said yesterday: "Teleaudience that is based on trust ... It is incumbent on all programme makers to nurture and

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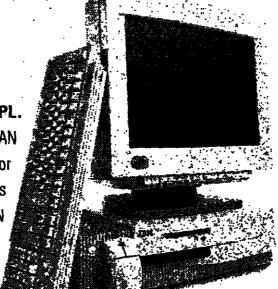
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G8 meeting in Birmingham: Blair's hopes for a laid-back atmosphere and new agenda have been set back by three crises from Asia

New-look summit dominated by old-style troubles

By Rupert Cornwell

IT WAS supposed to have been a new-look summit - with a sharply narrowed agenda, and treat, allowing leaders of the world's eight leading powers to the Big Picture. Some hope.

When Tony Blair welcomes his seven guests to Birmingham today for the annual G8 summit, three major concerns from Asia threaten to dominate proceedings: the continuing financial crisis in the region, the worsening turmoil in Indonesia - the planet's fourth most populous country - and, above all, the prospect that Pakistan will respond in kind to India's nu-

clear tests this week and escalate what is already the subcontinent's most dangerous arms race in its history.

Behind them looms a scarcemuch time spent in a rural re- ly less daunting set of issues: the state of near war in the Serbian province of Kosovo, fresh steps step back a moment from the to reduce the debt burden that onrush of events and consider is choking the world's poorest countries, and the Middle East. And, of course, the two subjects which Mr Blair once promised would be the centrepiece of the occasion: international crime and how to create new jobs in an ever more automated and electronic era.

To some extent, Mr Blair has succeeded in changing the format after last year's gathering in Denver, Colorado, where "declaration diplomacy" plumbed



eanne Kellegher pulls a pint of English bitter from a selection specially named to co

foreign ministers, which further encumbered proceedings.

These were held a week ago. in London. As a result, the final Pakistan not to carry out nuclear communique from the leaders of tests of its own. More probthe United States, Russia, Japan, lematic is the matter of retal-

24th such summit since former Kingdom, Italy and Canada was president Giscard d'Estaing in- a modest eight pages long. They augurated the tradition in France will spend virtually the whole of in 1975 will, for once, be without tomorrow at the retreat of Weparallel sessions of finance and ston Park. But their minds may very well be in Asia.

Most urgent of all, the eight will do their utmost to persuade

new depths of absurdity. This France, Germany, the United iatory sanctions against India. The US and Japan have already acted, but Russia and Britain, among others, oppose such re- known of just how far the eight cel them outright, then at least taliation. The summit would convey "the dismay of the international community", Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday; Britain's job as host was to find "the maximum unity" on the sanctions issue. But Indonesia, and the re-

will publicly express their private conviction that President Suharto should step down quickly, if that is the best hope of restoring order. The G-S will again oppose any reversion to protectionism by countries embroiled in the crisis.

emerged yesterday on the eve of the G8 summit in Birmingham.

The dispute, which sets Pres-

ident Bill Clinton against Tony

Blair and the other European

Union leaders, could threaten

the international agreement on

climate change painfully

reached between nearly 150

countries at Kyoto, in Japan, last

December. An hour has been

specifically for the G8 heads of

Their differences became

clear yesterday when Michael

set aside tomorrow morning

government to discuss it.

nancial markets, will come a steps to reduce the debts of the close second, with the crucial un- poorest countries - if not to canto ensure they do not find themselves repaying more old debt than they are receiving in new aid. But the International Monetary Fund and Germany in particular are adamant that there is no point in forgiving debt until countries stop wasting the fi-

sulting further unrest in Asian 6- intense pressure to take concrete nancial resources they do have. That line does not go down well with international aid and human rights groups - and even worse with the demonstrators who will be making the same point this weekend outside Birmingham's International Convention Centre where the G8 is meeting. Mr Blair has promised "concrete measures" to reduce debt, but would give no details.



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sions permits discussed at the

A FEW last-minute hitches

marred preparations yesterday

for the G8 summit which begins in Birmingham today. Four of the summit nations' flags were stolen in an overnight raid.

The thieves also removed four 10ft poles from which the flags

Despite a torrent of rain, several hundred square feet of yellow and curling grass were discovered alongside the A45 route which will bring President Bill Clinton into the city. The

grass was quickly dealt with -

spray-painted green. The flags

took a little longer to resolve, but Birmingham City Council

was confident yesterday that it

As the white and mainly

rived in convoys, representa-

Christian Aid has called "the

would find replacements.

had been hung.

their obligations to cut green- emissions trading, although I house gases to sell off the sur- know this is challenged in plus to other nations as America." The limit should be "permits to pollute". Some not more than 50 per cent, he United States and Britain over Eastern European countries said, and the countries of the how to tackle global warming whose economies have col- EU would be proposing this forlapsed, such as Russia, will mally at a meeting next month. have massive notional "pollution surpluses" under the treaty.

> The US wants to be able to meet all the cuts it has promised by buying up permits, so that "reductions in its CO2 output would be merely on paper, while its factories and motor vehicles continued pumping out exhaust gases at an undiminished rate. Britain and the countries of

the EU will not accept this, Mr Meacher made clear yesterday, and will be pressing for at least 50 per cent of the US's promised CO2 cuts to be real rather than paper reductions. cans, the world's biggest :- He pointed out that the US

emitters of the principal gas . had 4 per cent of the world's population and 25 per cent of its carbon dioxide (CO₂), must not greenhouse gas emissions. "That be able to buy their way com- cannot continue," he said. Addressing a meeting on

climate change and the G8 The Americans are seeking summit at the House of Comto do this through the system of mons, Mr Meacher said: "It is internationally tradeable emis- certainly our view in Europe of getting any reductions. It has that there should be a limit on Kyoto meeting, which allows the proportion of cuts that countries that have easily met countries can achieve through

Mod

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Emu Hunt

In the meantime, he said, it would be raised at this weekend's G8 meeting, adding: "I am sure that the European heads of government will be pressing the point." Mr Meacher was given back-

ing from his Tory predecessor as environment minister, John Gummer, who said: "You cannot expect developing countries to come on board if the major polluter in the world fails to put its own house in order."

A leading American environmentalist, Philip Clapp, head of the National Environmental Trust, said success at the G8 summit depended on Mr Blair and the other EU leaders. "Will they make it clear to the President that they expect action on the part of the US?" he asked. "There's a lot of talk and no action. The US is sending a signal that the Clinton administration has no intention not proposed one domestic measure since Kyoto to reduce carbon dioxide in any fashion."

'Poor 8' urge summit leaders *Ask in-store for details NEW to cancel Third World debts THE BEST WAY TO BUY Play Station By Louise Jury

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There's a Great Deal going on

International flags fly in Birmingham for the summit Photograph: News Team International

to mark the new millennium. Organisers of a demonstration tomorrow are hoping that it

male faces of the G8 nations ar-- the biggest rally on a developtives of what the charity ment issue since Live Aid - and force the G8 nations to act. Ger-Poor 8" got their chance to many promised aid agencies that speak. Aid agencies and char- it would put the issue at the top ities operating as the Jubilee of the summit agenda. Martin forces to ask for a one-off can"It is one of those moments debts by the year 2,000."

cellation of Third World debts when world history starts to happen. It is a unique opportunity." Tales about the effects of Third World debt were told by representatives from Tanzania and Nicaragua, Jamaica and Bangladesh. Nunu Kidane, from Ethiopia, spoke for them all: "We would like to appeal to the G8 to give a 2,000 coalition have joined Drewry, of Christian Aid, said: give new hope by cancelling the

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Claims about HIV and babies are proved false

Science and Technology Editor

RE-EXAMINATION of data on babies that appear to the journal Science. But he have "cleaned out" HIV from commented: "I've never seen their systems shows that such claims are false. The dramatic finding shows that "transient" infection with the virus that should disappear." causes Aids is probably a mirage caused by sloppy laboratory practice, according to a team of American scientists.

Their findings, published today, offer both good and bad news in the war against HIV. The study of 41 apparent cases of "transient" HIV infection indicates that transmission of the virus from mother to child occurs at a slightly lower rate than estimated - as the researchers reckon that the children were never in fact infected.

Their analysis, based on detailed genetic examinations of the samples, shows that the positive results were instead caused by mislabelling or by laboratory contamination.

However, the work also squashes the idea that some virologists had been developing, which was that something in children's metabolisms might be able to defeat the virus, which gradually overwhelms the body's immune system. Using that theory as a basis, they suggested, could lead to a cure for

"I don't think people were hanging their hopes on this being the answer," said Clive Loveday, professor of retrovi-

rology at the Royal Free Hospital in London.

He was not involved in the HIV-positive samples taken new study, published today in any proof of such 'transient' cases, and there's been no real explanation of why the virus

carried out.

of "transient" infection.

The work shows again that where HIV is concerned, laboratory work is occasionally suspect. In 1995 The Independent revealed that the claim that a Manchester man in 1954 was the "first case" of Aids was false, because the version of the virus found was a modern mutation. That was subsequently blamed on contaminated instruments in the pathology laboratory.

Today's finding offers slim hope for HIV-infected mothers. Roughly 14 per cent of babies born to HIV-infected mothers are themselves infected, But in 1995, a paper published in the New England Journal of Medicine claimed that in a number of cases, HIV-positive babies later tested HIV-negative.

The new paper re-examines 41 cases of "transient" infection which turned up in five separate studies of 1,561 HIV-infected infants and their mothers. By examining the genetic components of the HIV samples in detail, it shows that there are no cases where the virus identified in mother and child is unambiguously identical - as it should be if it was transmitted through

Instead, the scientists think



The Very Rev John Threadgold, Dean of Chichester, coming face-to-face with himself yesterday in the form of a newly carved gargoyle on the Photograph: Solent News and Photo Agency cathedral wall, for which he provided the inspiration

Modern men get the blues in a woman's world

By Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

THE feminisation of society is making men gloomy, according to a study. Depression is rising in men and falling in women and the explanation may lie with the change in gender roles.

Polash Shajahan and Jonathan Cavanagh, from Royal Edinburgh Hospital, compared the rate of admissions for men and women with depression between 1980 and 1995. For women it fell 13 per cent and rose 13 per cent for men. admitted than men, the gap between the sexes narrowed. In 1980 twice as many women were hospitalised for depression as men, compared with 50 per cent more in 1995.

The authors suggest in the British Medical Journal that changes in society over the past 20 years have improved the mental health of women while shifting some of the psychological burden they have historically borne on to men.

Full-time jobs for men are declining, while more women are finding part- and full-time work. The result is declining social status for men as they lose their role as the sole financial provider and increasing isolation as they lose the comrade- readiness of men to seek and ship of the workplace. The accept psychiatric help.

increase in women working has meant more have been able to benefit from the advantages. that work brings, previously enjoyed by men.

Previous studies identified a growing fear of failure among men, and the rise in male suicides over the past decade is well established. Women are opting for higher education in greater numbers than men and obtaining the qualifications they need in a world in which the job market for those without qualifications is shrinking.

Psychologists say work plays Although far more women were a more important part in a man's image of himself and its loss has graver consequences. A woman might say she is married with two children and a dental hygienist.

A man would just say he is a dental hygienist. Because they use their jobs as a source of identity, if they lose them it is more difficult because they have put all their emotional eggs in one basket.

"They pay lip service to New Man but they don't want to be seen as winnes," one psychologist said.

The authors consider whether the apparent increase in depression in men may be the result of a change in the way GPs treat depression or in the

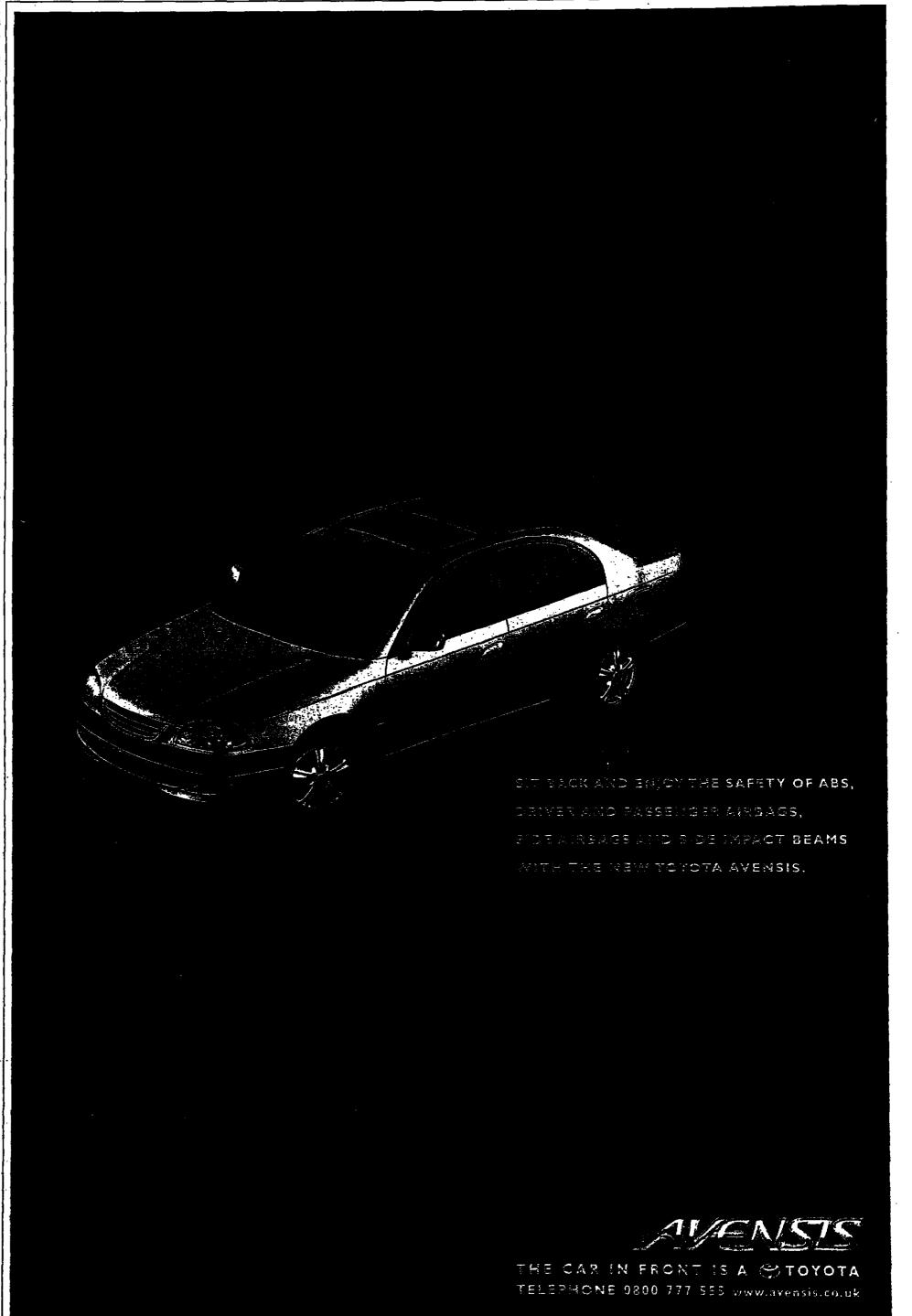


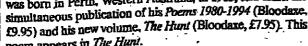
Emu Hunt

By John Kinsella

They'd drive them down this stretch of track At breakneck speed, and then two guys Hiding behind those thick-set wandoo trees Would snap the rope tight at breast height And toss them arse-up, leave them sprawling Bulbous-eyed, with claws grasping at thin air, Necks muching like headless snakes Waiting for the calm of sunset, tarantismic Feathers fanning the ground like chopper blades Skewed off-centre, the staccato of bullets Sprayed from rapid-fire semi-automatics, Reverberating through the forest canops, Meat ants driving hastily towards the corpses.

This week's poems celebrate the work of John Kinsella, who was born in Perth, Western Australia, in 1963, and mark the simultaneous publication of his Poems 1980-1994 (Bloodaxe, 19.95) and his new volume, The Hunt (Bloodaxe, £7.95). This





poem appears in The Hunt.

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NHS patients at risk from millennium bug

By Anthony Bevins Political Editor

PATIENTS could be at risk in at least 45 NHS Trusts, who have reported they are "not confident that all their clinical equipment would continue functioning normally in the year 2000".

A National Audit Office report on the threat posed by the millennium computer bug last night prompted swift reaction from the Government, which put "rigorous new measures" in place "to ensure that patient care and safety are not compromised". But fears that the action being taken is too little, too late, are compounded by the facts: that last night's report excludes Scotland and Wales; that 28 per cent of NHS Trusts in England - 118 trusts in all - did not even bother to respond to a NAO survey; and summarised results of a survey by the NHS Executive will not be known until the middle of next month. more than 10 weeks after the

closed that 16 of the 100 Health Authorities in England ignored the NAO investigation, and 37 of the authorities that did bother to reply said "they had not yet collected information on GP practices in their area". Of the authorities who replied, 26 said they were not confident that GPs' systems would be year 2000 compliant in time".

It is estimated that more than 8,000 English GP practices are computerised, with as many as 29 million patient records dependent to some extent on IT

The NAO last night refused to name the authorities or trusts that had not bothered to respond to its survey. Asked about Scotland and Wales, the NAO said the implications of its report would be picked up by the Scottish and Welsh offices.

All computers and clinical equipment are at risk from the millennium bug; the inability of some programs to distinguish between the year 1900 and of failure in medical devices is 2000, when two-digit years go to at present unknown."

Last night's report also dis- 00 from the end of next year. The NAO report noted that the NHS Executive had already told all trusts and authorities "that it is impossible to predict the seriousness of malfunctions but in extreme circumstances failure or malfunction of equipment could even put patients

> Against that background, only 63 NHS trusts, a fifth of those who replied to the questionnaire, told the NAO that their clinical equipment would be year 2000 compliant by the end of this year - on target for the NHS executive deadline.

More than a third of those who replied, 106 trusts, said they would need to work through to the end of April to complete the

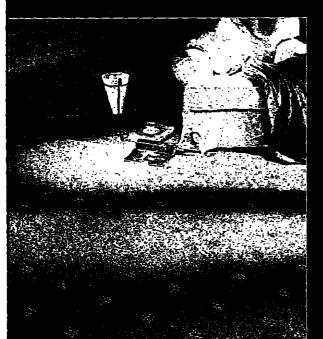
One-fifth of NHS trusts [57] were not confident that they would succeed in ensuring that their clinical equipment would continue functioning normally in year 2000," the report said. It then added: "The likelihood



Jean Chretien (left) talking to Tony Blair at 10 Downing Street yesterday, during the Canadian Prime Minister's visit to sign a trade agreement

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Blair offers compromise over union recognition

By Colin Brown and Barrie Clement

TONY BLAIR is offering a series of concessions to "old Labour" over union recognition to defuse one of the most difficult issues faced by the Prime Minister since Labour came to

Downing Street has conshould be compulsory where more than half of any workforce are union members. Mr Blair has also agreed there should be no test of minimum union membership before a recognition hallot is held.

out of the main Bill and included in regulations to enable it to be reviewed after a reasonable period.

Senior ministerial sources option of reducing the thresh- Minister would back the com-

if a higher threshold proved unacceptable, without having to return to Parliament to amend primary legislation.

"If it is going to be under review, it will be in regulations. After a year you could change it to 35 per cent. That is being discussed," said one source. In a further compromise, there ceded that collective bargaining could be exemptions for firms employing fewer than 20 staff. The CBI had wanted a 50

per cent threshold. But Labour MPs warned the Government at a meeting with Mr Monks at the Commons this week that there would be a big revolt if the Cab-And while unions will be inet tried to impose a 40 per asked to accept a 40 per cent cent threshold without some threshold for ballots for trade sweeteners for the unions.

> Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, angrily stepped in when it was reported that the 40 per cent threshold had been agreed. Mr Prescott's friends

The package was approved by the Cabinet after the draft

White Paper "Fairness at Work was outlined by Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade. A senior source said the White Paper was likely to present the "pros and cons" of the 40 per cent figure. The Deputy Prime Minister

made it clear to Mr Blair that it was a "crunch" issue for him, and the deal appears to have reached approval from both sides. The Prime Minister's official spokesman said: "Every contribution endorsed the plan that Margaret Beckett outlined, including Mr Prescott."

While some sources emstood that the figure may be left thrashed out after John Prescott, others pointed to the patient diplomacy of John Monks, TUC general secretary.

While the CBI wanted to allow employers to define the "constituencies" for ballots on said that could leave open the last night said the Deputy Prime recognition, Mr Monks has successfully argued for a "neutral"

old to 35 per cent after a year, promise, if it won the support system in which both sides attempt to agree, with recourse to an independent arbiter if that is not possible.

The TUC leader has also secured a compromise on the size of company to be excluded from the legislation. The CBI wanted organisations with fewer than 50 workers to be exempt, but that limit has come down to 20.

Mr Monks welcomed signs that the White Paper would be published next week and said that while some trade unionists would be concerned by the 40 per cent threshold, the White Paper should be judged as a whole.

Sources close to Mr Blair said the Prime Minister did not want a confrontation with the unions. "He wanted an amised the influence of Mr icable agreement and that is what we've got," said a source.

Mr Prescott insisted that final approval of the draft White Paper should not be given until next week, after agreement with Mr Monks. Talks are continuing, but it could be pub-

Women fight to sit in Welsh assembly

By Louise Jury

THE Labour Party faces bitter wrangling this weekend over moves to ensure that women get an equal share of the seats in the new Welsh assembly. Female campaigners fear that Welsh men may be intent on scuppering chances of a more repesentative assembly.

The principality's four female MPs and two MEPs are spearheading efforts to ensure a gender balance in the assembly by "twinning" constituencies, as is being done in Scotland for its new parliament.

Under the twinning procedure, members choose a man and a woman to represent constituencies that are "paired" according to their likely winnability. But constituencies angry that twinning would remove their autonomy over candidate selection have proposed an alternative selection process which will be debated at the party's Welsh conference tomorrow.

They are claiming backing from the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine, who has said that twinning may be illegal under sexual discrimination legislation. Under the alternative, all

man and a woman and the par- achieve a gender balance is by ty's selection board, which vets a barter with all the old power proposed candidates, would brokers," one said. decide who got the seat. Proponents argue roughly equal numbers of men and women should be adopted, achieving the same aim as twinning but more democratically.

Garry Owen, a Welsh executive member and president of the Pontypridd constituency which has proposed the alternative, said it was "practical, workable and flexible". Twinning was divisive, he said. It could mean, for example, that a larger constituency could disen-

franchise a smaller neighbour. Jeff Hopkins, Llanelli constituency secretary, said they were in favour of equal opportunities, but there was not a big pool of women available in Wales because they had not taken part in politics before. "In terms of politics [women] need education ... so that they understand that there's a system there that they can use," he said.

However, several party members said it was "traditional" constituencies in places such as the valleys who were opposing twinning. "The only way

constituencies would choose a [the Pontypridd alternative] can

Chris Roberts, of the "twin to win" campaign, said half the constituencies had signed up in support and they believed many union votes would go their way. "Given the democratic

deficit as far as women are concerned, we think the slight disadvantages of twinning are worth the great advantages it will secure in producing a truly representative assembly," he added Julie Morgan, MP for

Cardiff North, pointed out only four out of forty MPs were women, three of whom were selected from the now-banned allwomen shortlists; 19 per cent of councillors were female, a lower proportion than in England and Scotland. Ensuring there were women in the new assembly was a way of changing the "totally male-dominated" politics in Wales, she said.

The Welsh Equal Opportunities Commission is currently investigating the "substantial under-representation" of women in Welsh political life and intends to present its findings on the problem to the Government.

Last votes for 'spoiler' candidates

NEW POWERS to outlaw "spoiler" candidates like the 'Literal Democrat" who took 10,000 votes in one election were announced by the Home Office yesterday. A new Bill will also allow parWh

and

ties to print their emblems beside their candidates' names to make it easier for voters to distinguish between candidates and parties", the Home Office said. The changes will be possible under a new register of politi-

cal parties to be set up for the Scottish Parliament, the Welsh Assembly and the European Parliament. The new forums will use pro-

portional representation and parties putting forward lists of candidates will have to register at Companies House.

Under the proposed laws a prospective candidate would need a registered party's permission to use its name or any form of words which might lead voters to associate the candidate with that party", the Home Office said.

Registration under the new Bill will be voluntary but the Home Office expects "any serious political party" to register in order to protect its name.

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Misery of dolphins trained to go to war

Science and Technology Editor

DOLPHINS trained by the Soviet military to be "watchdogs" at naval installations, and to lay or identify mines, are suffering in inadequate dolphinariums around the world, or have died in transit, according to a

The study, published today by the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS), based in Bath, also highlighted the fact that military use of dolphins is still a priority for the first began experiments with the mammals in the 1950s.

the work was demonstrated last week, when the WDCS computer was the target of a hacker based in a US naval installation, apparently

seeking advance sight of the report. The report tells a dismal tale of the fate of 43 bottlenose dolphins which were trained by the Russians and lived in the Black Sea. After the breakup of the Soviet Union, many Gulf war, it used them to search

were sold to dolphinariums or theme-parks in Malta, Cyprus, Turkey and Argentina. Frances Clarke, the WDCS's campaigns coordinator, said: "We want British tourists to be aware of the conditions these dolphins suffer, and urge them not to visit these institutions."

Many of the animals, reckoned

to be as smart as humans in some regards, died in poor facilities at receiving airports. Others were taken to swimming-pools or harbour pens. In all, of the 43 exported from the Black Sea, 34 died thanks to poor US, which, like the Soviet Union, travelling conditions and facilities in captivity. "Russia still has dolphins held at Sebastopol, but because of The emphasis the US places on a lack of funding they aren't using them for anything except search and recovery in the port," said Miss Clarke. "But the US Navy has a very intensive programme, and isn't going to phase it out, because dolphins proved useful in the Gulf."

The US Navy is also using dolphins to lay and detect mines, and monitor submarines. During the



US Navy divers training a dolphin, used to detect intruders. Dolphins used by the Russians have suffered since the Soviet Union broke up

1950s, military scientists have tried bilities. Experiments are thought to include carrying cameras and mines.

ahead of ships for mines. Since the "half-hearted" attempt at hacking, in the US." The society said US "If you try to put in codes that would service chiefs admitted the attempt. to find ways to exploit their capa- take you past the public area of our Miss Clarke said: "There is nothing website, the system automatically in the report that would have an tracks you back to your source," said impact on the US Navy, although The WDCS computer security Miss Clarke. "We found the attempt it could be of general interest system foiled what it described as a came from a naval military source to them.

Exporters say they are helping to conserve the species through captive breeding programmes but the society said the trade was a commercial venture contributing nothing to conservation. No successful reproduction programme had been surviving exported dolphins.

established in any of the facilities except at one in Israel. "The export of Black Sea dolphins is simply a disaster for the animals involved," says the report. The WDCS is calling for the return to the wild of the

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Body-parts sculptor has jail term reduced

By Kate Watson-Smyth

THE sculptor Anthony-Noël Kelly, who made legal history by becoming the first person in Britain to be convicted of stealing human body parts, is to be of someone who was contemreleased from prison in the next few days after winning an appeal against sentence.

hy the Court of Appeal vesterday. He has already served six weeks in Brixton Prison.

Kelly, 42, a nephew of the Duke of Norfolk, who smiled judge's decision, had earlier lost his appeal against conviction.

Lord Justice Rose said the tencing exercise" because it was so unique. "We are prepared to accept that he had no financial motive for doing what he did and that he was primarily motivated by what he regarded as artistic reasons," be said.

But he added that the theft of body parts, albeit comparatively old ones, was something that the public would view with "repugnance" and might have a dissuading effect on the mind plating donating his body for scientific research. Kelly's solicitor, Mark

duced from nine to three months | lease would have to be worked out with the Prison Service. "With automatic remission, it common law offence of outcomes down to about six weeks' imprisonment which is as devastating to him as a year would and raised his eyebrows at the be to others," he said. "You can imagine the effect on a man with

his artistic sensibility." Kelly's accomplice, Neil case presented "a difficult sen- Lindsay, 25, who helped to smuggle more than 40 body parts from the Royal College of Surgeons at night in black binbags, was also successful in his appeal. His six-month suspended sentence was amended to a two-month suspended sentence.

both men were hitherto of good character but that Lindsay was under 21 at the time of the offence and was "persuaded to act as he did by a man who was not only considerably older but who had a considerable force of personality".

They were the first to be con-Kelly had his sentence re- Stephens, said the date of his re- victed of such a theft because previous body-snatchers have been char raging public decency.

At their trial, the jury was told that the body parts were transported by taxi, motorcycle and even Underground train to Kelly's studio in west London where, using rubber moulds, glass fibre and plaster, he created bronze and silver casts.

His scheme was uncovered when Her Majesty's Inspector of Anatomy saw a newspaper photograph of his first exhibition of a bronzed head and torso and contacted police.

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Why women like it hot and men keep their cool

By Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

SCIENTISTS have confirmed what every Woody Allen fan knows - that women are too hot to handle. Measurements of the tem-

from one to 84 revealed that on average the women were 0.4 degrees Fahrenheit hotter.

Oddly, however, the women had colder bands, which were on average 2.8 degrees cooler than the men's, giving some scientific credence to the saying City, who report their findings "cold hands, warm heart."

between the sexes - what thickness of duvet0 to sleep under. The greater difference between the core and skin temperatures perature of 219 people aged in women accounts for their greater propensity to feel the cold. Their cool-blooded male partners are meanwhile forced to swelter under layers they

would rather do without. The researchers from the University of Utah, Salt Lake

in the Lancet, found that The finding may explain the women get hotter as their mencommonest bedroom dispute strual cycle advances with a higher core temperature in the last 14 days than in the first 14 days. Post-menopausal women over 50 were cooler than premenstrual girls under 13.

Weight only made a difference to the temperature of the men. The fatter they were, the lower their core temperature suggesting that big men really can keep cool. ■ The risk of a heart attack ris-

es in the two weeks after a cold, suggesting the infection may trigger the attack, researchers have found.

A study of 9,500 people, of whom almost 2,000 had a beart attack, found those who had had a cold in the previous 10 days were at almost three times the risk. The risk declined with the passage of time since the cold.

The authors of the study, published in the Lances, say that inflammation caused by the cold could alter constituents in the blood or tissues which could account for the increase in risk of an attack. Although only 4 per cent of the heart-attack patients in the study had a cold in the preceding two weeks they say their finding could be of great public health interest.



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"A better understanding of the role of chronic and acute infections in the actiology [cause] of acute myocardial infarction [heart attack] may result in new strategies for its prevention and treatment." they say.

Snub for black police in gallantry awards

Home Affairs Correspondent

TWO black undercover police officers who were shot in the line of duty have been overlooked for gallantry awards in what the Police Federation described as a racist snub which left it "staggered and disgusted".

The officers were seconded from the Metropolitan Police to one evening in October 1994. try and smash a network of crack dealers in the Handsworth they had arranged to meet they area of Birmingham. While posing as drug buyers, they were both shot in a struggle with

chairman of the Police Federation for the Metropolitan Police area, said the officers deserved the George Medal for Gallantry, the second highest civilian award for gallantry after the George Cross.

He condemned the West Midlands Police's failure to nominate the men, and said: "If it's not racism, it's the biggest case of hypocrisy you will ever come across. I would be in despair if this was a racism incident, but I must tell you that both of the

officers concerned think it is." He said the case was a bad advertisement for the police, and would not help recruit more officers from the ethnic minorities. for their bravery."

Mr Bennett has written to the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, saying he was "staggered and disgusted" at the manner in which the officers were treated.

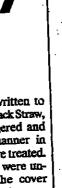
The officers, who were unarmed and using the cover names Philip and Martin, were attacked while sitting in a parked car in the Soho Road area of Birmingham at 7.30pm

As they waited for a dealer were approached by two men who, after asking for a light, tried to steal the car keys.

In the struggle that followed Yesterday Mike Bennett, Philip, the driver, was shot in his calf. Martin attacked the gunman and was also shot in the leg. Philip, despite his injury, rushed to Martin's aid, knocked the gunman down, and sat on him. He was kicked in the face by another man and shot. The attackers ran off but three men were arrested later, and jailed for periods of 12, eight and five years.

The officers are now suing the West Midlands Chief Constable after having to leave the police because of their injuries.

A West Midlands Police spokesman said: "The Chief Constable and the trial judge in criminal proceedings have already commended both officers



Old boys' network 'dominates universities' Education Correspondent and said that urgent action

"name and shame" the worst

AN OLD BOYS' network still dominates Britain's universities, lecturers said yesterday. They condemned vicechancellors for promoting too

leges defended their record arguing the table was years was needed to redress the out of date. But they acknowledged that men still far out-The Association of Univernumbered women in many sity Teachers (AUT) published academic departments. a league table designed to

Terry Major-Ball auditioning gnomes yesterday at the Museum of Garden History in London for next week's Chelsea Flower Show

The AUT survey, based on

few women to professorships offenders. Universities and colfigures for 1996, the most recent Higher Education in Art and Deup 97.5 per cent of professors and 83 per cent of senior lecturers and researchers. Umon leaders said female professors were still outnumbered two to

one at even the best institutions. The AUT president, Penny Holloway, said: "We have worked willingly and industriously with vice-chancellors and produced a plethora of good practice guidelines, but worthy words are not enough."

David Triesman, general secretary of the association, singled out art and design courses for criticism. He said: "You can walk through fine art departments and never see a woman. Art departments are some of the most macho, hard-drinking

environments you can imagine."

ment heads, said much progress had been made. She said: "Our fine art department has a 50-50 split and I do think things have started to move and fine art has started to make progress. When I was a student there

was only one female tutor, and when I started work at Ulster I was the only female lecturer. In the early years it was awful and incredibly lonely, but now far more women come into the system and become role models."

She said that a wave of early retirements across universities in the past two years had brought a rapid change in the make-up of departments.

Other universities also attacked the AUT figures. Ply-But Professor Elaine Thomas, mouth University, condemned by chairman of the Conference for the association as having the

worst ratio of male to female professors at 43 to 1, said the true figure was now 15 to 1. A spokeswoman said: There has been a deliberate policy in the university. We were aware that things were not right and we decided to

Photograph: Rui Xavier

Gaza

do something about it." Diana Warwick, chief executive of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, which represents university heads, said: "Ever since CVCP's own equal opportunities survey in 1996, we have promoted the importance of action over policy."

■ The new university standards watchdog was criticised yesterday as being out of touch and a threat to academic freedom. Mr Triesman said the Quality Assurance Agency"is to be run by people whose experience of teaching is either non-existent or should be exhibited on the Antiques Road Show".

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Blaze which killed four was deliberate

mother, her two young daughters and a baby-sitter died was started deliberately, police said

Lisa Dodgson, 25, her daughters Amy Louise, aged two years and nine months, and nine-month-old Rose Marie Lakey, died in the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, after the fire broke out behind the front door in their house in the West End of the city. The baby-sitter, Emma Louise Cater, 16, died

It is thought all four were trapped upstairs when the fire began about 5.30am.

Detective Superintendent Derek Storey said: "We believe the fire was deliberate and an accelerant was used at the front door." Police planned to talk to members of Ms Dodg-

A HOUSE fire in which a son's family and her friends to have been robbed of their work out a picture of her lives." Police teams were yesthis tragic incident has occurred," he said.

"This is a tragic incident in which a young mother aged 25 and two young children died in tragic circumstances." Fifty officers were assigned to the case, he said, and a mobile police incident room would be sited in the street 24 hours a day until officers knew what had hap-He could not confirm sug-

gestions from neighbours that Ms Dodgson had been pregnant. Police did not know who had been the target for the attack, Mr Storey said. But he added: "I do not think for one moment that anyone would be targeting young infants. It's horrendous two young children

lifestyle. "At this moment there terday examining the house, in is no apparent motive of why a terraced row in a run-down area of Denton Burn, and a sniffer dog was also called in. The windows and doors of the property next door and

many other empty houses in the street were boarded up with metal screens to keep out vandals and squatters. Brendan O'Kane, the Tyne & Wear Fire Brigade Division-

al Officer, said: "It was a very severe fire to get through, especially when persons are reported to be trapped inside. "It is obviously really upsetting for firefighters when they

have to pull children from a fire, especially a baby. "The surviving 16-year-old girl who was in the house was in a very bad way when she went

to hospital."

T.rex's ugly cousin is unearthed

SCIENTISTS have discovered in the journal Science Today by Krause said: "This was the most the near complete skull of a genuine ugly monster, a wrinkly faced dinosaur with sharp teeth and homs that may have used its face to frighten enemies.

The creature, Majungatholus atopus, was a two-legged predator almost 20ft long and a distant cousin of Tyrannosaurus rex. It lived near the end of the dinosaurs' reign, 65 to 70 million years ago, on what is now the African island of Madagascar.

Majungatholus had a highly unusual bone structure and features researchers suspect were used to send visual signals to attract potential mates or threaten unemics. Its facial bones were rough and wrinkled, and it had a bony bump above each eye socket which was probably covered with a non-bony horn. The discovery was reported

United States researchers.

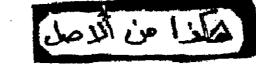
A team led by Professor David Krause, from the State field work." University of New York at Stony Brook, found Majungatholus's Mahajanga, one of Madagascar's largest cities. Professor

terrific find I have been associated with in more than 25 years

Majungatholus appeared to have been buried during a flood remains about 25 miles from soon after its death, protecting its remains from scavengers and decomposition.

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(centre spread, tabloid section.)



versities'

Gaza bloodshed marks 50-year struggle

By Patrick Cockburn in Jerusalem

ISRAELI soldiers killed eight Palestinians, including an eightyear-old boy, in riots in Gaza yesterday as Palestinians commemorated the anniversary of their forced flight 50 years ago from what is now Israel. It is the worst violence for 18 months and may indicate that, given the stalemate in the peace talks, the confrontation between Israel and the Palestinians is taking a bloodier turn.

The Palestinians died in clashes at the northern and southern ends of the Gaza Strip, the congested enclave which is home to 1 million Palestinians and 5,000 Jewish settlers.

At the Erez checkpoint Akram Abu Askar, one of the wounded, was quoted as saying: "I saw somebody shot in the neck and went to evacuate him. They shot me in the right arm. When I continued pulling him, they shot me in the other arm."

Six of the Palestinians who died were killed as they demonstrated outside the Jewish settlement in Gush Khatif in Gaza, which has often seen fighting in the past. Major-General Abdel Raziq al-Mujaideh, chief of public security in the Gaza Strip, said two boys aged eight were killed, though other sources said one was in a coma. He said: "The number killed reached eight martyrs and 80 were wounded." A further 100 people were injured on the West Bank, mostly in Hebron. Bethlehem and Ramallah.

The violence yesterday was the worst since September 1996, when Benjamin Netanyahu, the newly elected Israeli Prime Minister, opened a tunnel under the Muslim quarter in the Old City in Jerusalem. More than 80 people were killed and over 1,000 injured on both

On that occasion, Palestinian police fired back at Israeli troops. This happened on one occasion in Gaza yesterday, but on the West Bank Israeli troops appeared to be mainly firing tear-gas at demonstrators.



Palestinians carrying away the body of Samir Fayad, who was shot by Israeli troops at al-Qarara village, in the Gaza Strip

Photograph: Reuters

fire to a wooden door leading to the sanctuary on which stand al-Aqsa mosque and the Dome of the Rock.

Police and border guards with long wooden batons later are partners in it, and this partbroke up a march to commemorate al-Naqba, the disaster when 700,000 Palestinians lost their homes in Israel in

speech by Yasser Arafat, speaking from Gaza. "We are not just a bunch of refugees begging for pity and charity," he said. "We are not guests in this world. We nership cannot be fulfilled without the establishment of a state."

When other speakers mentioned the name of Mr Ne-1948. Hatem Abdel Qader, a tanyahu, people who were member of the Palestinian leg-standing on the rooftops fired islature, was beaten by police. shots into the air.

In the central square of 'There was a march by Nablus, the largest city on the purposeful-looking young men low the Ottoman walls sur- larly killed with a knife in what 20 per cent to 42 per cent in the West Bank, some 3,000 people belonging to Hamas, the Islam-rounding the Old City. "If the appears to be a retaliatory at-four years after Oslo, according

with Jewish extremists setting utes' silence and listen to a ing a large model of the Dome would stop," said a shopof the Rock, with its golden keeper, opening the metal dome, on their shoulders. Small doors that protect his shop by boys carried placards saying: "50 six inches. Occasional empty Years of Palestine Disaster". A bottles were hurled at the blue-and-white Israeli flag was police from side-streets. burned on a roof. The mood was Tension has increased in

festive rather than angry, until ru-Jerusalem in the past week mours spread through the crowd since a Jewish seminary student of Palestinians killed elsewhere. belonging to a settler organi-In Jerusalem, Israeli border sation called Ateret Cohanim guards, paramilitary police was stabbed to death in the Via Dolorosa in the Old City. armed with batons and guns firing rubber bullets chased small

boys up and down the road be-

0800

construction worker was simi-In Jerusalem the day began gathered to observe a two min- ic militant organisation, carry- soldiers would go away all this tack as he walked to work past to a European Union report.

the ultra-Orthodox neighbourhood of Mea Sharim. Frustration is deep among the 2.9 million Palestinians living in Gaza, the West Bank and east Jerusalem over the failure of the Oslo accords of 1993 to improve their lives or move them far towards self-determination.

Israeli restrictions on the movement of people and goods led to a 35-per-cent fall in per capita gross national A 51-year-old Palestinian product and a rise in the number of unemployed Palestinians from

Netanyahu appeals direct to US public on Israel's behalf

By Mary Dejevsky in Washington

AS FRESH violence flared in the West Bank yesterday, the Israeli Prime Minister took his case for improved security guarantees direct to American opinion with a forceful plea for "security as the foundation for peace". He also warned in no uncertain terms against any unilateral declaration of statehood by the Palestinians as a move that would pose "a mortal danger to Israel" and

"wreck the peace". Under strong United States pressure to break the 16-month deadlock in the peace process, Benjamin Netanyahu was addressing the pro-Israel Washington Institute for the Near East in a hastily arranged breakfast speech, before embarking on a new round of talks with the US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright. The new talks were scheduled after a meeting on Wednesday produced no agreement.

Speaking with determined clarity spiked with flashes of passion, Mr Netanyahu said the 1993 Oslo accords had "failed miserably" to guarantee Israel's security, and he gave the most detailed account of the Israeli position yet to have emerged into the public domain.

Citing the successful precedent of peace with Egypt and Jordan, he called for a "territorial buffer" to be preserved to the east and the west of Israel. He demanded guarantees from the Palestinian authorities, possibly in the form of legislation, that would outlaw incitement to violence and ethnic and religious hatred in Palestinian territory and proposed a three-party dinner table, in the family".

monitoring body. Acknowledging that a land "buffer" would not deter missiles, he responded: "The fact that they can fly in through the window doesn't mean you open the doof."

Mr Netanyahu dismissed Ms Albright's earlier upbeat sessment of Palestinian attempts to rein in terrorism, saying - also with reference to vesterday's violence - that the Palestinian authorities could "whip up violence" when it suited them and "this is not a pressure tactic we can accept". He lambasted the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, for not securing a change in the Palestinian Charter, which calls for the abolition of Israel.

Mr Netanyahu had hinted before leaving Israel that he would make his appeal direct to the US public and politicians and he was expected also to address meetings on Capitol Hill before leaving for New York today. The prospect of "megaphone diplomacy" appeared to have prompted Ms Albright to defend publicly the US position, as she did at short notice earlier this week. giving assurances about Israel's security but accepting that in matters of national security, Israel's elected leaders had the last word.

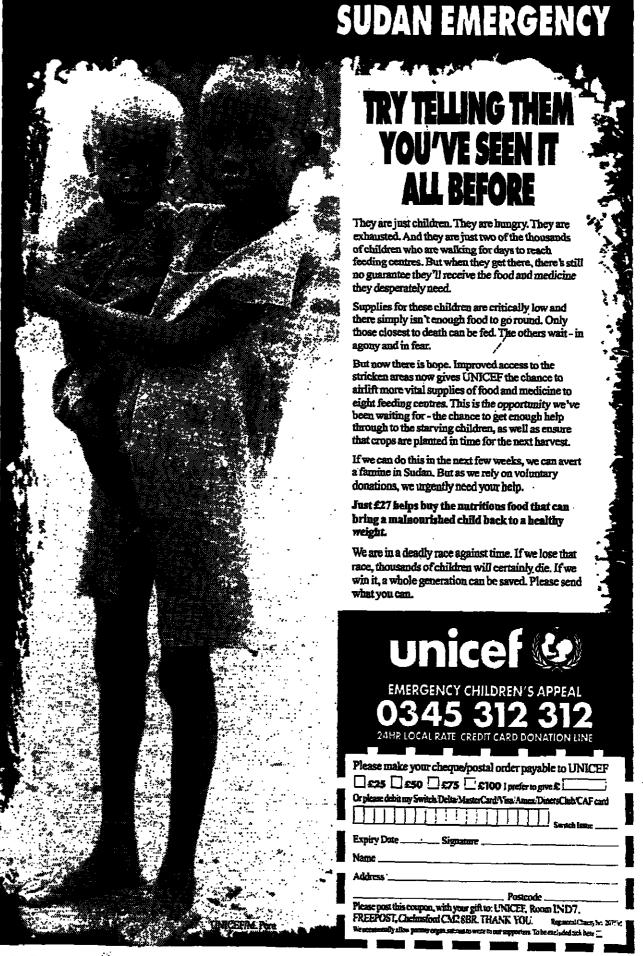
Yesterday, Mr Netanyahu made no bones about the conceptual gap between himself and Washington, saying that while "others" might see "normalisation", economic exchanges and people-to-people contacts as conducive to peace. for Israel "normalisation" was "a bonus"; only security could guarantee peace. However. he described these as merely "disagreements around the

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Clinton and Kohl celebrate airlift miracle

in Berlin

GERMANY and the United their kinship forged 50 years ago by building "bridges to the future" gle for freedom never ends".

tion of the airlift that began half nals with that unforgettable dea century ago, 10,000 Berliners claration in German: "Ich bin cheered the President, swayed to the Bundeswehr Big Band's rhythm-and-blues, and echoed it of the city and the miracle of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's profusive thanks.

The venue was Tempelhof airport, a Nazi-era megalith remain Berlin." that fell into American hands afcraft, the US Air Force had tened "Spirit of Berlin".

help of our American allies," Mr ern Germany," he oozed. Kohl vowed. "Now and for

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lade, keenly aware of hyberbolic standards set by his predecessors, rose to the occasion with States pledged to strengthen a flourish. "Man's soul is like water. From heaven it descends and to heaven it rises," he said, in a world where, in the words of quoting Goethe. "The airlift be-President Bill Clinton, "the strug- came a sharing of the soul."

His idol, John F Kennedy, At an exuberant celebra- had written his name into the anein Berliner". President Clinton was not to be outdone. The spirthe airlift will live on 100 years from now, he declared "Berlin bleibt doch Berlin - Berlin will

Some locals took that as a bitter the war. On its Tarmac ter aside to the developers stood vesterday the "Spirit of transforming Potsdamerplatz in Freedom", a C54 converted the heart of the city into a Manpassenger plane that took the hattan, but the President was lion's share in the relief of surely not troubled by such neg-Berlin's hunger. Alongside this ative thoughts. The pathos flowed freely, platitudes landed, parked its hyper-modern C17 like the "raisin-bombers" of yestransporter, the newly-chris- teryear, once every 90 seconds. "It would be difficult to imagine "We shall never forget the a better friend or ally than mod-

This was a German-Ameri-

heroes of the airlift, notably British airmen, got only a cursory mention. School-children were handed out paper flags of the two countries; the banners fluttering in the breeze were German and American only. For one glorious day, Britain and France had been airbrushed out of history.

But even the thunderous presidential accolade was eclipsed for a moment by the ovation for Colonel Gail Halvorsen, aka the "Candy Bomber". Col Halvorsen had flown in from Utah, admittedly with the help of a young crew, to bask one more time in the adulation of Berliners.

Now 79, the pilot is credited with the idea of dropping Hersbey bars attached to tiny parachutes. A showman to the last - he had danced in his fading ancient uniform before the crowd - Col Halverson kept his uplifting performance brief: "People can live without having enough to eat. But they cannot live without hope. That's what the airlift meant."

To Gerry Munn, another veteran pilot with 121 sorties out



Marking the airlift yesterday, from left, are Helmut Kohl, Bill Clinton, airlift pilot Gail Halvorsen and Berliner Mercedes Wild

Chines

was just another job, devoid of back in 1948. "I wondered why the epoch-making significance the people in Washington accorded to it today. "During the favoured Uncle Joe [Stalin], inairlift, I don't think any of us saw stead of Adolf. To this day. I how important it was," he said. don't think we are finished with He had flown a bomber in the the Russians yet." war, whose purpose he could

No such hint of doubt was,

relentless advance of Western civilisation in the east. In the Mr Kohl and President Clinton words of Chancellor Kohl: "Our spoke at length about the legatity in Europe be assured." goal is to complete the con- cy of the Cold War, and the struction of the European house need to integrate the new -with a permanent right of residence for our American friends European Union. "Above all," lift. "They should feed Africa," - enabling the family of Euro- Mr Kohl said, "we need to en-

ers turned their attention to the pean nations to live together side hance our relationship with by side in lasting peace." Both Russia, for only together with Russia can security and stabil-

Jenny, a 12-year-old Berliner, glimpsed a contemporary democracies into Nato and the message in the history of the air-

never quite fathom, was de- of course, allowed to mar the ever: our heartfelt gratitude, Mr can love-in, not to be tainted by of Wiesbaden during the blockade, flying in and out of Berlin mobbed and then offered his job ceremony, as the official speakany rivalry for affection. Other xons SEE THE LATEST IN HANDHELD COMPUTER You'll be amazed at the new generation of Handheld Computers and PC Companions at Dixons. From the new credit card sized REX Handheld Computers that incorporate Word Processing, Spreadsheets and even Internet access, we've got a product that will suit your needs. **TEST DRIVE THEM TODAY** Ask for a full demonstration in-store. ROLODEX REX 3ds A PC COMPANION AND ORGANISER P S I O N SERIES 5 A SIMB EPOC 32 HANDHELD CONFUTER 6 8Mb memory, 6 Backit touch-sensitive screen. 256k memory.PC docking station included. Digital dictachone. Word proce • Spreadsheet • Sketch. Was £489.99. SAVE 670 Comprehensive organiser. Notepad and leather wallet. 6ND HANDHELD COMPUTER WITH WINDOWS CE Leather case. Free Windows CE Version **3 COM** NEW

Barry under pressure to quit disaster-zone DC The Mayor's years in Wash- voted him back into office any-

in Washington

WHO SHALL rule the New Rome? Which man or woman will gain ultimate power over across the globe? Who will be 1995. mayor of Washington DC?

muse anyone who lives in the city. For Washington is far from being the glamorous metropolis at the heart of an empire. "A city that should be America's Paris has become its Cairo," wrote the New York Times. Nor is it in control of its own destiny, unlike almost any other such city in the world.

The man whom many blame for this is Marion Barry, mayor of the city for 16 of the past 20 years. This weekend, Mr Barry may decide that four terms is enough.

At a meeting with community representatives and his supporters, he will decide whether to stand in this September's primary. Speculation is building that he will stand aside, perhaps to stand as a councilman, perhaps to retreat to academia.

Enigmatic to the last, he is giving no clues. "I am trying to wind down this decision, so I want to get one final look and a little prayer," Barry said this week. "I have really given this decision serious consideration, and I am really torn between what to do."

ington saw him rise to power spectacularly in the 1970s, before falling just as dramatically when he was caught on camera smoking cocaine in a downtown the city that rules not just the hotel room in 1990, and jailed. most powerful nation on earth. But he bounced back, claiming but which indirectly guides the redemption and a rediscovery fortunes of hundreds of millions of God, and won re-election in

eton is a divided city that description of it would be- as Mayor Barry. Rock Creek Park, a strip of grass and trees that widens as it pushes north, is a green wedge that splits it

Barry: still deciding if he will stand for a fifth term

into rich and poor, but also white and black. West of the park lie the prosperous suburbs with their clapboard houses. two-car garages and baseball hoops in the lush green gardens. The west-of-the-park white establishment of Washington can't stand the Mayor, and excoriates him weekly in the Washington Post. He doesn't need to worry that much: the electorate, predominantly black and poor, has

But Washington is in trouble. Over the past 25 years, the city of 500,000 has lost about 200,000 residents in a flight to the suburbs. Many of its basic services do not work, its finances (though improving) are chaotic and its public school system is rotten.

The job is real enough, but and few things divide it as much him as the maladministrator who created this, playing politics when the city really needed a good manager. Over the past few years Congress has struck back, stripping the mayor of most of is powers, and creating a financial control board which wields more power than mayor and council combined.

Barry's friends would point out that the city had more than its fair share of problems before he arrived, and say that he was never given much of a chance by the white establishment. But pressure is building for a return to self-government, and most realise that while he is in office that will be an impossible goal. His friends have tried to prepare

a dignified exit for him. His opponents are already jockeying for position. Today four of them are expected to pick up their nomination papers: Republican Carol Schwartz and Democrats Jack Evans, Kevin Chavous and Harold Brazil,

In a city that is Democratic to the core, only Evans, Chavous and Brazil have a chance, but if Barry decided to run again, he could well still win

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Paris obelisk finally gets its gold cap

PARIS (Reuters) — A gold-leafed pyramid cap was placed on top of an ancient Egyptian obelisk in the heart of Paris yesterday, more than 150 years af-ter the project was first conceived.

The 107ft-tall obelisk, which was carved in the eighth century BC and given to France by an Egyptian viceroy in 1830, stands at the centre of the famous Place de la Concorde.

When the stone monument reached Paris in 1836, experts urged the French authorities to restore the masterpiece to its original splendour by putting a pyramid cap back on the pinnacle.

But it was not until last year that President Jacques Chirac agreed to back the 1.5m franc project as part of celebrations to mark Franco-Egyptian relations.

The 12ft-high hat is built out of bronze and covered with 23.5 carat gold leaf.

French rightists plan alliance

THE leaders of France's two main conservative parties proposed forming an alliance to fight the far right. The Rally for the Republic, the party of President Jacques Chirac, and the Union for French Democracy pledged to reject any compromise with the National Front. The RPR president, Phillipe Séguin, and the UDF leader, François Léotard, said the alliance could emerge as early as September.

Egyptian cult members freed

POLICE freed 12 people detained for believing an unemployed Egyptian was a messiah. Cult members were released after recanting in front of a committee from the highest seat of Sunni Muslim learning. The cult believed Bahaa Eddin Ahmed was a messiah and that the country would be flooded during the first three days of April.

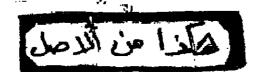
Gnome-plant blast kills two

TWO people died in an explosion at a garden-gnome factory. Three were injured, one seriously, at the plant near Zielona Gora, western Poland. Guome production has flourished partly due to demand from Germany.

- Reuters, Warsow

Koala first

AUSTRALIAN researchers announced the birth of the world's first koala from artificial insemination at a sanctuary in Brisbane. The koala, about the size of a jelly-bean, was spotted in its mother's pouch last Tuesday. — Reuters, Sydney



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Chinese round on India **Over** nuclear testing

By Teresa Poole

CHINA yesterday attacked India for its nuclear tests, saying it had shown "outrageous contempt for the common will of the international community". North Korea also said it could revive its nuclear-power programme, because Washington was being too slow supplying promised light-water reactors.

As the rest of the world rounded on Delhi, Peking for the first time also claimed a place on the moral high ground of supposed nuclear respectability. It was "deeply shocked". a foreign ministry statement said. The tests would have "serious consequences to the peace and stability in South Asia and the world at large".

The Indian ambassador to Peking was summoned to hear a protest, and the Foreign Minister, Tang Jiaxuan, phoned his US counterpart, Madeleine Albright, to call for a "clear-cut and firm stance" against India's nuclear programme.

In recent years Peking has more often been heard defending its own right to a modern nuclear armoury. China did not halt its own test programme until July 1996, when it conducted its 45th nuclear blast. Peking then implemented a moratorium on testing and in September 1996 signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Since then stories have persisted that China has helped Pakistandevelop missile systems and nuclear technology, an allegation denied by both.

India's mistrust of China's relationship with Pakistan is never far from the surface in relations retween Asia's two giants. The Press Trust of India news arency said the Indian Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayte, had cited "an atmos- A worker cle phere of distrust" in relations with Clina in a letter to President Lill Clinton explaining the decision to conduct nuclear tests, "We have an overt nuclear-weapon state on our borders, a state which committed arned aggression against India in 1962," the letter said.

Four decades later, India and Chinahave still not managed to North Korea's ambassador to settled disputes over border

Pexing yesterday dismissed which he warned that "some of India's picture of China as a nu- our officials" had suggested nology for Pakistan's new imposing sanctions.



Chinese said the Indian tests would have serious consequences for peace and stability Photograph: Nathalie Behring/Reuters | which gives him a helpful seat | ly news bulletins regularly lead | soft folds of his charcoal suit.

"India wants to achieve a dommant position in South Asia," said Sun Shihai, deputy director of the Institute of Asia-

Pacific Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Also in Peking yesterday China, Chu Chang-jun, conducted a rare news briefing at

accused Washington of moving Indian government. mised light-water reactors. Ungramme in return for safer re-

Korea, the US, and Japan. More recently, North Korea

clear threat as "gratuitous". Pyongyang should revive its Ghauri missile, whose test flight nuclear-power programme. He a few weeks ago so alarmed the

> too slowly on supplying pro- Britain is recalling its High Commissioner from New Delder a 1994 accord, Pyongyang hi for consultations, Reuters agreed to halt its reactor pro- reports. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, told parliament actors financed by South Britain would be consulting its European partners on further reactions but did not was accused of supplying tech-mention the possibility of

fright as Lebed bids for power By Phil Reeves in the Federation Council, as a

Kremlin takes

ALEXANDER LEBED, the former paratrooper general once rated as Russia's most trusted politician, is about to to date in his campaign to take over the Kremlin

This weekend he hopes to centre stage of Russian politics by winning the governorship of Krasnoyarsk, a mineral-rich region in western Siberia four times the size of Texas.

Voters will go to the polls on Sunday for the final round of the election, which, if Mr Lebed Iriumphs, will make him a frontrunner in the race to replace Boris Yeltsin. The contest, which pitches him against the incumbent governor, Valery Zubov, a moderate pro-marketeer, is seen as a test-bed for the presidential election in 2000, and has drawn in worried rivals, power-hungry oligarchs and the Kremlin.

Victory for Mr Lebed, a nationalist, would restore much of the clout he lost when an ungrateful Mr Yeltsin signed a decree, live on national television, firing him as head of the Security Council. His dismissal came only four months after Mr Yeltsin gave him the job in a brazen attempt to win over his 10.7 million share of the vote between the two rounds of the 1996 presidential elections. His sacking - the product of infighting amid the President's aides - came despite his success in brokering an end to the Chechen war; it set a vengeful Mr Lebed on Mr Yeltsin's heels.

The fact that Mr Lebed, 48, who last month won the first brothers in alliance; brothers Such remarks can be put down round of the Krasnovarsk election with 45 per cent, seems likely to win has raised alarm Asian Russia, a prize fiefdom throughout Russia's political establishment. He has made no and bauxite.

launching pad for a bid for the highest office. The Communists fear he

will take a large bite out of their stagnant electorate, burying their slender hopes of succeedface the most important battle ing Mr Yeltsin. His rivals know one of his weaknesses, the lack of big-time money, could be solved. To the alarm of the burst out of the wings on to the Kremlin, and of much of the Moscow financial and social élite ranged behind it, he would be well-placed to recruit Siberia's raw-material barons to bankroll his presidential bid.

That anxiety was reflected by Moscow's mayor. Yuri Luzhkov, a frontrumer for the presidency, who has pitched in to help



Alexander Lebed: Democrat or despot?

Mr Lebed's opponent; the mayor is well aware that Mr Lebed is a fellow nationalist and a genuine rival for his turf, who shares his flare for publicity.

Mr Lebed's brother, Alexei, another trombone-voiced expara, is governor of the neighbouring Khakassia region. As the central government tries to assert its control over 11 time zones, it faces the spectre of two who control the vast sweep of land which links European and with its rich legacy of nickel, oil

with accounts of the daily duel for Siberia's hearts and minds. Pressing regional issues - unpaid wages, a crumbling infrastructure - have been largely overshadowed by the gladiatorial struggle.

The tactics of the American campaign trail abound. Mr Lebed, who long ago swapped khaki for cashmere and silk, is supported by spin doctors overseeing a super-slick PR operation. Their coups include a visit from the French film star Alain Delon, a big star in Russia.

Yesterday Mr Zubov, a former economics professor and Yeltsin loyalist who was a shooin until Mr Lebed entered the fray, counterattacked by wheeling in Russia's female pop diva. Alla Pugachyova. The governor, supported by the Kremlin, is putting up a spirited fight. "Fascists hide behind your back," snapped Mr Zubov in a television debate this week. "I have not used my fists in a long time," retorted Mr Lebed, an ex-boxer who has boasted of breaking the iaws of soldiers who brutalised their juniors.

And that last detail is the principal problem with Mr Lebed. A hero of the Afghan war and broker of a lasting cease-fire in Moldova, he styles himself as a democrat, albeit it one who places a sharp accent on law and order. He talks of encouraging private investment, fighting corruption, and stimulating the market economy.

But his critics, especially in the West, where he is viewed with concern, have not forgotten a tirade in which he called Mormous "mould and scum", and cited Russia's "rusty missiles" as a response to Nato expansion. to stump rhetoric. His record, particularly, his performance in Chechnya, outshines his sillier outbursts. Yet it is impossible to be absolutely sure that a despot's heart does not beat bene

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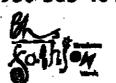
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Reading such a wordy advert is not easy, especially if the person writing it finds it very difficult to put into words exactly what they really sort of mean and they keep using far more words than are absolutely necessary to get the point across quickly and go on and on and on about things that are only really interesting to themselves.

And what if the writer starts rambling and ambling with woolly words and nothing he says sense to make seems or maybe he just goes

silent for a few paragraphs. Would you read on, or tell him he's so incredibly funny and take him to the pub where everyone can laugh at him.

Let's be honest, reading takes a little bit of concentration, a smidgen of intelligence and, heaven forbid, time. A telly ad on the other hand is easy to watch and tells you exactly what it means instantly. Why do people like charities write pages and pages of weenie little words about really nasty things when they could just get Tom Cruise saying "Show me the money"— naked. We'd get the point wouldn't we? And it would be a lot less work for us. It's only an advert after all. It's not life and death is it? — well not ours anyway. We don't want to do all that reading, all that hard work, just get to the point.

OK suicide, I want to talk about suicide, now are you going to carry on reading?

(A lot of people just stopped.) But you're prepared to read on and listen. Let's see, yeah I've thought about it, who hasn't? I once thought a great suicide note would be "Things to do today" – be more successful, become a parent, be nicer, get fit, get a conservatory, go on holiday, go mend the tap etc. etc. etc., of course – I knew I couldn't, well wouldn't do any of them, any day – no way José.

So finally I've told you what I want to talk about, sort of. Taken me long enough hasn't it? Why didn't I just put it up front, then you wouldn't have had to listen to all this drivelling on.

But there lies the point and why people like yourselves make good listeners, because they are prepared to put in the effort to "listen".

See, listening properly is just like reading properly, pretending to do them or half doing them doesn't work. If you're thinking about something else you can't read properly, if you take the book down the pub and get pissed you can't read properly, or if you burst into tears and get upset you can't read properly.

Of course you can appear to be reading and listening but in reality it's you that's lost the plot (cracking jokes while someone's trying to confide in you doesn't work either).

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they keen. No, the ability to listen, like reading has no short cut. It takes effort. It takes patience, and it takes perception, to read between the lines of what's being said. It also takes the brains to know that what's not being said is as important as what is being said, and most of all it takes time.

By now, you've proved you're a good listener. You may be interested to know 16% of men would have told me to snap out of it at paragraph five. 10% of men and women would have simply panicked at paragraph two and 7% of men would have told me to keep my problems to myself.

> Statistically speaking, you're also more likely to be a woman (now I know why my wife is so much better at reading books than me) as women find it much easier to talk about their problems because they find it more likely other women will listen to them. Men on the other hand don't expect to be listened to and understood, but joked about, and taken down the pub to forget and fall over. We all know this doesn't help. Neither does being told about all the positive things in your life.

> What does help is to really listen, to set aside time to listen, to allow friends to tell you the truth and not play down their problems.

> The ability to listen to people in trouble can be the difference between life and death. The Samaritans know this from years and years of experience, but they also know you don't have to be a Samaritan to be a good listener. That's why this year Samaritans Week, which runs from 15th-23rd May, is dedicated to the importance of listening throughout society.

> One person in Britain dies by suicide about every 90 minutes. 75% are men. Every o 7 seconds someone contacts The Samaritans and every year they receive over 1.5 million silent calls. 55% of young women and 32% of young men have felt that life is not worth living at some stage.

> These people are all someone's colleague, neighbour, brother, sister, mother, father or friend. Please take the time to listen to them, use your instinct, if you think someone you know needs help they probably do. Finding that someone actually cares enough to really listen to them really can make the difference between someone choosing life rather than suicide.

Thank you for taking the time to listen.

The Samaritans

The Bombay bombshell

Shobha De's raunchy novels have enraged and titillated India. By Kathy Marks

"HE DREW me close to him and stuck his tongue down my throat. His rough hands were tearing at my blouse, while his knee was still locked between my legs. 'Let's do it standing up.' he said, unzipping his stained

This is standard fare for readers of the lurid "sex and shopping" novels that dominate the lower end of the popular fiction market. It comes not from the pages of Jackie Collins. though, but from Shobha De, a Bombay-based writer who has shocked polite Indian society with a series of raunchy tales set in her native city.

These homegrown "bonkbusters", with their racy plots, strong language and explicit sex scenes, have proved an overnight publishing sensation. transforming De into India's biggest-selling English-language novelist. But reviewers and commentators are scandalised. Despite being the land of the Kama Sutra and erotic temple carvings, modern India - thanks largely to the influence of the British Raj - is distinctly prudish. Hence one critic's denunciation of De as the "princess of porn".

Now De, a former model and gossip columnist, has written her first non-fiction book, Surviving Men: The Smart Woman's Guide To Staying On Top. Shortly to be published in Britain, where she has a dedicated following in the Asian community, it is a witty and acerbic analysis of the shortcomings of Indian men and is, she says, of universal relevance.

Moral?, portrays men as a pathetic bunch of creatures, inept in bed, lacking in personal hygiene and easily manipulated.

In London this week to conduct a three-day creative writing workshop, De relates with glee the furious reception that Surviving Men was given at home. "Indian men are very. thin-skinned, and they're not used to being lampooned," she says. They take all this as an affront to their masculinity.

"You see, urban Indian women have made great leaps forward, but men are still living in the 15th century."

first Indian woman novelist to

with headings such as Are Men selves." She denies that she set out to shock - "I didn't want to be a literary streaker" - but clearly enjoys doing so, albeit from her safe vantage point as a member of the moneyed

> Born in the state of Maharashtra. De moved to Bombay as a child and, after taking a psychology degree, overcame the opposition of her conservative Brahmin parents to take up a career in modelling. Later, after a stint as an advertising copywriter, she became the founder-editor of Stardust, a gossip magazine about the

Bollywood" film industry. The De, just turned 50, was the transition to celebrity author

"You see, urban Indian women have made great leaps forward, but the men are still living in the 15th century"

write about sex in a manner neidebut work, Socialite Evenings, a tale of wealth, power and intrigue among the Bombay jetset, sold 40,000 copies - a huge number, by Indian standards and led one critic to observe that Penguin India, her publisher, "have decided to put themselves in the service of the country, masturbating the na-

De, immaculate in a bright turquoise salwar-kameez, shrugs her slim shoulders. "Sex is still a taboo subject in India, although God knows our pop-The book, 27 short chapters ulation figures speak for them-

down to write a non-fiction ther coy nor apologetic. Her book about Bombay at the request of Penguin and ended up with Socialite Evenings.

De affects weariness with the Indian media's obsession with her glamorous image - neglecting to mention that she exploits that image as part of a highly successful marketing strategy. A portrait of her, posed by a fashion photographer, appears on the dustjacket of all her books, showing off her cool beauty to perfection. De also maintains a high profile through three weekly columns in Indian newspapers in which she doles out provoca-

Her self-promotion machine has also made much of the fact that she moves in the same charmed circles as the tycoons and movie moguls who people her fiction. Indeed, one of her early publicity blurbs boasted that "her private life reads like one of her novels".

In fact, she says, she leads "a disappointingly conventional life". Married to a millionaire shipping magnate who proposed to her within 10 minutes of meeting her, she has six children and writes her books in long-hand on the dining room table of their oceanside penthouse apartment.

The broad appeal of her novels, she believes, lies in their depiction of a modern, urban India that is unknown to most Indians. "They also have an aspirational quality." she says. "Indians are fascinated by Bombay; the city is a magnet. It is deliciously evil and has a tremendous energy, a cuttingedge quality that pushes you to the edge."

She believes that her books reflect the changing nature of male/female relationships in India, where an explosion in job opportunities over the past decade has spawned a new breed of woman: educated, assertive, increasingly prepared to demand her rights in all areas of life including the bedroom.

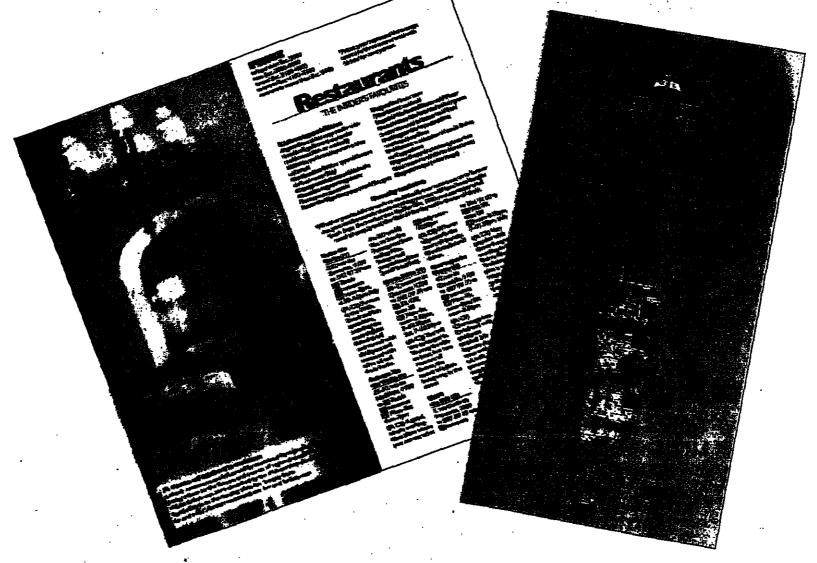
"My heroines are anything but victims and doormats, says De. "They don't get kicked around and, if they do, they kick right back. In the groin, if at all



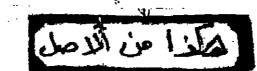
Model-turned-novelist Shobha De has been dubbed the "princess of porn" by critics

FREE SUPPLEMENT

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Diary of a fast-food Junkie

We spend three years of our lives eating, so could a diet of take-aways free up valuable time? Tim Hulse put the theory (and his stomach) to the test

Thursday 7 May

Fast food consumed: 1 Egg Mc-Muffin, 1 Burger King cheeseburger meal, I KFC original recipe meal. Rennies indigestion tablets consumed: 4.

8.30am: Article in this morning's paper reveals that, on average, we spend three and a half years of our lives eating. Food for thought or what? What else might I have done with all that time? Circumnavigated the globe? Written several novels? Maybe even finished painting the shelves in Friday 8 May my hallway. The possibilities are endless.

Which is why I find myself in McDonald's chewing on an Egg McMuffin ("chewing" being very much a necessity - if you dropped one of these things, it would bounce). From now on, I'm not going to waste a foreigner in my own country. any more time on eating. It's going to be fast food all the way. (Cue imaginary trumpets heralding the dawning of a new, action-packed life.) Uncle Ronald here I come.

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first

Fail to win free hamburger in the McDonald's World Cup Years scratchcard game. Apparently, it was McLaren-Ford who won the Formula 1 Motor Racing Constructors' Championship in 1974. So now I know. Never realised that eating fast food could be educational.

7.30pm: Realise that eating fast food can also be potentially harmful to health. While I'm sitting in the Kilburn branch of Kentucky Fried Chicken, picking over the batter-encrusted skeleton of a dead hen, an unseemly fracas occurs. It ends with a middle-aged customer, undoubtedly the worse for drink, being forcibly ejected onto the street by the manager. "I'm going to close this fuck-

ing place down!" are his final words of bravado as he's bundled out of the door. Eat the remainder of the meal quickthrough window. Thankfully it never comes.

Notice uncanny and somewhat unfortunate resemblance between Colonel Sanders and Rolf Harris, cheery host of Animal Hospital. Suspect chicken I've just eaten was probably beyond help.

Fast food consumed: 1 Big Mac meal, 1 portion of cod and chips at a chippy somewhere in London but I'm not absolutely sure where exactly (look, it was Friday night, okay?!). Rennies indigestion tablets consumed: 2 1.30pm: Beginning to feel like Partly because English is clearly not the first language of the people who serve me my meals (ditto fellow diners), but mainly because Γm eating fast food on my own, which is something I tend to do abroad.

Fast food restaurants are an anonymous haven for the solitary diner. I know, because I've eaten lonely Big Macs all over the world, from Barcelona to Bangkok and from Houston to Hong Kong. And when you think about it, old Ronald Mc-Donald doesn't seem to have any mates, does he? Which is as it should be, because Ronald is the patron saint of the lonely eater. God bless him.

Fail to win free portion of French fries by not knowing that Lionel Richie's Top 10 hit in 1982 was "Truly". Could have sworn it was "All Night Long".

Saturday 9 May Fast food consumed: 1 quarter-

pounder with cheese meal at tourist trap on Oxford Street, I chicken shawarma with halloumi cheese, I plate of chicken ly in expectation of brick liver and I spinachy samosa-type thing at Beirut Express, Edgware Road. Rennies consumed: 4. 1.45pm: Make mental list of strange things I have eaten in

> crickets alligator kangaroo ostrich

guinea pig Pot Noodle All of them were preferable to the glistening ball of grease served up to me at a place called American Burger, its only claim to fame being that it sells "The Best Value Burger In Town". And even that isn't true.

To be honest, all this fast food is beginning to get me from an infected blister. (An epic saga full of drama and Sunday 10 May pathos - remind me to tell you Fast food consumed: 1 Big Mac about it sometime.) And I'm meal, I Big K meal. Rennies conconstantly beset by images of sumed: 6.

a lovely, black crisp... And my social life is sufpeople can be.

down a bit. I daydream con- 8.30pm: Decided to have a tinually of lazy hours spent in change and sample some fast some local trattoria with wait- food Lebanese-style. Wasn't ers brandishing giant pepper very fast and was certainly very mills as I bore my dinner com- fatty, but tasted fantastic. Make panion rigid with my favourite note: invent chicken liver burgstory of how I nearly died er and become millionaire.

the kinds of food I've now re- 7.30pm: On day that football nounced - piquant, summery Premiership reaches its climax,

things like sun-dried toma- have decided to stage the Burgtoes and olives, and slow, time- ership equivalent: the Big Mac consuming things like sausages versus its new upstart chalthat have gently been fried to lenger, Burger King's Big K. The ultimate head-to-head! Having now sampled both, I

fering somewhat. Friends tend can announce that the Big K to react rather badly when scores highly on texture, making they invite me for dinner and the Big Mac seem a little slimy I have to say no, because Γm in comparison. (Heresyl May going to McDonald's. Amaz- Saint Ronald forgive me.) Howing how narrow-minded some ever, the Big K bun fell apart and, as usual with Burger King,

they went overboard with the vegetable matter. It was a close call and had to

Tim Hulse chows down on the last burger of his junk-food trial. Maxi-pack of Rennies not pictured

be decided on a ketchup tiebreaker. In the end, the jury (me) voted the Big Mac the winner, simply because the accompanying ketchup came in a little pot, making chip-dipping simple. Burger King provide sachets, which means you have to squeeze the ketchup into a dollop on your tray. Most incon-

Monday II May Fast food consumed: 1 Burger

God is in the details.

King Whopper with cheese meal, 1 Burger King cheesehwger meal. Rennies consumed: 4. 7.30am: Have just spent 10 minutes on toilet. Bowels appear to be seizing up. Feared this might happen. The phrase "I

really feel like a burger" has be-

gun to take on an awful literal

meaning, in that I feel like my insides are packed full of 100 per cent pure beef.

with memory of newspaper story which described the cleaning of a sewer somewhere in the West End. Apparently the amount of congealed fat removed was equivalent in volume to that of a double-decker bus. Suspect my arteries currently contain a similar amount. owe Go for drink with

friend. Take advantage of evening sunshine and sit outside the pub. Friend draws attention to the large number of flies buzzing over my head, no doubt attracted by the meaty odours which ooze from my every pore. Worry that life is turning into a tacky horror film starring myself as The Burger Thing -Half Person, Half Pattie. (In the

bathroom, no one can hear

you scream...)

Whopper meal, 1 McDonald's Have also become obsessed

vegetable Deluxe meal. Rennies consumed: 2. Time spent on toiles: 15 minutes. 7.30am: An equation seems to have come into effect which dictates that the more time I save eating fast food, the longer I spend in the bathroom, bugeyed and straining to eject it

Fast food consumed: 1 veggie

from my system. Clearly something has to be done. 1.30pm: Lunch with veggie friend, who introduces me to the questionable delights of the veggie Whopper. It has a strange, curry-like taste, but she reckons it will sort out my little "problem". This evening I'm going to try the McDonald's version. 9pm: Severe flatulence. Have become walking embodiment of Viz character Johnny Fart-

pants. But at least I now know

that the planet Pluto was dis-

Photograph: Edward Webb covered in the World Cup year

Wednesday 13 May Fast food consumed: 0. Rennies

of 1930.

I can't face it any longer. In the past six days, I've eaten nine burgers of one kind or another and 11 portions of chips. Just the smell, even the thought, of a fast food restaurant is now enough to make me feel sick. So it's back to good old slow food from today.

Cold food. Wet food. Food that isn't greasy. Food that doesn't have a catchy name and a silly slogan. Food that doesn't come on a tray and isn't accomnanied by the latest chart hits. Food that isn't at a reduced price while special promotion lasts and at participating outlets only.

Sorry, Ronald, I did my best, but I think we're going to have to call it a day. I'd rather spend my life eating.



It could be a wedding tailor-made for the tabloids, but have James Major and Emma Noble got a lot to learn about love? By Virginia Ironside



Conservative couple...

NO ONE in their right minds gets engaged after only knowing each other for only three months. So is the engagement between John Major's son, James, and former topless model, Emma Noble, the act of obsessive sexual madness? It could be true love, of course, or is it, as seems more likely, a publicity stunt with about much substance to it as the recently bruited idea that Chris Evans is Anthea Turner's new love?

It may sound cynical, but you can't get away from the fact that James is hoping to set up his own nightchib and, as we all know, many entrepreneurs will stop at nothing to get publicity for their ventures. Emma, on the other hand, was at the time of their meeting a hostess of Bruce Forsyth's The Price is Right TV game show, and makes no bones about her ambition to be a TV presenter. When she first met him she was reported as saying: "This looks like a great photo-opportunity."

And you only have to look at photographs of them together to suspect that

engaged to be married prefer dignified pictures of themselves looking as though they are embarking on a lifetime adventure. They don't get themselves snapped snogging on a sofa, she (who says she is 24 but is, in fact, nearly 27) in a bright pink dress, all strings, cleavage (enhanced last year), and little else except leopard-skin high heels, he in trendy white T-shirt and cool jeans. To me, they don't look like a couple in love; they look like a couple on the make.

Miss Noble has told how she and James are hurt by the stories that have cropped up about their relationship. She said: "We know the truth, our friends and our family know the truth." James has attacked the liars who have spread the gossip saying: "There's a lot of lies that have been printed but we all know the truth and just ignore it." And what of the parents? They are "delighted" of course. But what else could they say? I bet underneath it all Norma is chewing her nails and rather wishing her things just don't look right. Most people son could find someone more serious to

settle down with. Emma's father said it was an older or a younger generation they may "fantastic news". But I bet he wants his daughter's happiness at heart and must wonder if this is really the way to get it.

Recently, Anthea Turner - another Clist celebrity - went off with Grant Bovey, a businessman with three children. His wife, Della, didn't take it lying down. The whole affair generated huge publicity for all three protagonists, and now, after enormous coverage, including 14 pages in OK! after the couple's reconciliation. Ms Turner's profile is even higher, and Mrs Bovey is, wait for it ... to host her own TV show. Was that just a publicity stunt? Who knows, but it certainly made the Boveys financially better-off. Similarly, her association with James has done Emma no harm at the bank. What are we to make of all this? Using affairs, marriage and divorce as mere publicity stunts is fine, as long as no one else gets hurt. But someone always does.

Often there are children, parents and grandparents to consider. As members of

believe in marriage and not imagine that anyone could use it cynically. And using marriage and engagement as some kind of public relations tool doesn't do society any good either. It demeans the very ceremonies that are its mainstay. Marriage is about love, relationships, children, and commitment. It shouldn't be used to further people's careers and get them more pub-

True, the pair may be genuinely in love, but if not there is something truly repulsive about using the build-up to a service and commitment that many people feel is blessed by God, for your own commercial ends. I give their engagement a couple of months. And if I'm wrong, I give their marriage no more than a year. One can only hope they don't have children or, if they do, they won't use them in more self-serving photo-opportunities - as the Bovey's did in OK!. If the pair had any dignity, they would ban all pictures and interviews from now on. Fat chance.



not so conservative couple Photograph: Steve Finn/Alpha

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'Ethics' didn't help in Indonesia

IT IS HARD to believe that, as he returns to find his capital city in chaos, President Suharto of Indonesia will be able to change the mood of a people who seem determined not only to overthrow him, but to unleash violence on the sizeable Chinese population of the country. Order has broken down in Indonesia and it is difficult to see what Suharto or the West can now do to rescue matters. It is, though, much simpler to identify the failures in policy that led us to this pass.

Suharto has been a despotic, brutal and nepotistic leader for most of his time in power. When he took power in 1965 in similarly bloody circumstances (400,000 Chinese died in the riots then) he became leader of what could still easily be described as an "under-developed nation", a mere "domino" in America's cold war against Communism. Today the Indonesian economy, even after the crash last autumn, is one of the most important in the region and indeed the world. But Subarto outlived his usefulness years ago and we should have encouraged him to follow his stated ambition to become a sage, before his people forced matters for us. We are now faced with the worst of all worlds.

The Americans are said to be embarrassed about their failure of intelligence about the Indian nuclear test explosions. At least these were underground. The build-up in tension in Indonesia has been distressingly visible and yet far less was done for this nation than was done, for example, to rescue South Korea. This is not to say that we should have had the IMF bail out Suharto. It is to say that he should have been provided with incentives and penalties to liberalise his country in return for stabilising her economy.

Britain is not a big player in this part of the world, but we do have some influence through our substantial arms trade. Our policy has been short-sighted and made all the more incomprehensible by the Government's impractical posturing about its "ethical" foreign policy. We know now that more than 50 batches of British arms have been sold to Indonesia since Labour came to power. It is not clear whether these weapons have been used to suppress internal dissent, to deny human rights and to defy international law in East Timor. But that is a secondary issue. The primary query is why we, a nation which allegedly runs an ethical policy, were doing this kind of business with a dictator like Suharto without securing some real progress on the ethical agenda. The West backed Suharto far too wholeheartedly for far too long and failed to dislodge him quickly and effectively. If we had we might have ensured an orderly transition to a more democratic regime.

So we have to face up to our share of the blame for the brutality and ethnic cleansing that is threatening Indonesia. Let us hope that our next steps in foreign policy are uncomplicated by the pretensions of the ethical doctrine.

Too little, too late to stop virtual monopoly

dress above, in which case the chances are you got here by using a piece of software called Internet Explorer. Or you may be one of the majority of the population of Britain who have never used a computer, in which case you might be forgiven for thinking that the threatened court case concerning Explorer in the United States is irrelevant. It is not. The Internet. the world-wide web of computers linked by telephone lines, increasingly forms the basis of the "weightless" economy which will determine our prosperity in the future. Already, one corporation has built a position of unhealthy dominance over this virtual infrastructure.

Microsoft, headed by Bill Gates, has pursued that trajectory so familiar to capitalism: creative innovation, dazzling success, wealth beyond dreams and, finally, attempted monopoly. As technological change accelerates, Mr Gates has followed this path unusually quickly. How we cheered when he outwitted and outsold IBM, the previous dominant player, which had grown fat and monopolistic itself. How we admired the entrepreneurial skill with which he built up his company and brought high-powered computing within reach of millions. But how we began to grow doubtful when Mr Gates started to abuse his dominant position in operating systems (the basic software which runs computers) to lever himself into a dominant position in

First came the irritating quirks which we suspected, but could not prove, were deliberately introduced to make Microsoft programs incompatible with competitors' software. Then the Internet started to expand and Mr Gates, wrongfooted by this change, used his market muscle to catch up. Ninetenths of the world's personal computers are already sold with his Windows software, so he decided to give away Internet Explorer free as part of the package. Explorer is a "browser" program, the gizmo you need to get on the Internet and find your way around. It is not as good as Netscape Navigator, but it works and it is free - so who is complaining? Well, consumers save money in the short term, just as they do when Rupert Murdoch sells his newspapers at below cost price. But if competitors are driven out of business, then we all lose out in the end - as we have seen count-

less times before, once a monopoly is established, prices rise to exploit it. Now it looks as if the threat of legal action has forced Microsoft to offer concessions, but although American standards are much tougher on such anti-competitive practices than ours, we suspect they will still be too little, too late. The Competition Bill going through Parliament here is long overdue, but already out of date. On both sides of the Atlantic we need much faster responses to the likes of Gates and Murdoch. We need a "trustbuster" able to stop dodges like the free Explorer bundle as soon as they are spotted and then force dominant companies to prove they are acting

Meanwhile, if you are on the Net, why not go to www.netscape.com and download a copy of Navigator, which is now also free, and use that instead? Strike a small blow for consumer choice.



Labour's union link

Sir: Anne McElvoy is right to argue that New Labour has little time for the unions (Comment, 12 May). However, the concept that the Labour Party would be more democratic without them is false. The union link needs to be democratised and modernised, but only antidemocratic forces have any interest

in breaking the link. The Party's internal democracy is aiready weakened by an increasingly arrogant and powerful centralised oval of the unions would only enhance the power of Millbank. If there is not to be a complete takeover by professional politicians, with all the abuse of power implicit in that, then alternative sources of pressure and funding need to be available. This is the more so because the decline in union funding (which is in itself welcome) has been replaced by plutocratic funding. It is no accident that Bernie Ecclestone's cheque was replaced by one from the owner of Planet Hollywood.

TREVOR FISHER

Sir: Anne McElvoy should focus on the real issues: the only time the union link is broken is in the columns of fashionable journalists. It does not register with the vast majority of ordinary Labour Party members.

Nor does it reflect the fact that without unions such as the AEEU (Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union), there would be no New Labour. When Labour was heading off towards political oblivion, unions worked to bring the party back to reality. Throughout the 1980s, the AEEU pushed for OMOV (one member, one vote), the expulsion of Militant and an end to unilateralism. Unions have as much to gain from leaving Labour now as we did when Labour was facing extinction. We are one family and we're sticking together.

KEN JACKSON General Secretary, Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union

Sir. I think the Government's re- agreement they will be voting with later regret. At the moment, a hid-

LETTERS

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

ported idea, that trade union membership should not be recognised unless at least 40 per cent of the entire workforce votes for it, is an excellent

cellent that I am even now eagerly Continuity IRA. iting for the Government to an nounce that the same percentage is being applied to all referendums. general elections, by-elections, local elections, elections of MEPs, elections to the Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly, Northern Iroland Council, and anything else that may have slipped my mind at the moment, so that unless a referendum proposal or candidate receives the approval of at least 40 per cent of all registered voters, the vote is in-

In addition, no vote in the House of Commons or the House of Lords should count unless passed by at least 40 per cent of the entire membership of that House. I then expect the Government to declare that no business in either House can be conducted unless a quorum of 40 per cent of the membership is present and each member shown to be at least 40 per cent awake.

Logical conclusion demands no RALPH ESTLING

Ulster conundrum

Sir: If the Protestants (Unionists) in Northern Ireland vote for the socalled Good Friday Agreement they will be voting with Sinn Fein, the IRA, and the SDLP.

If the Catholics (nationalists and republicans) vote for the agreement they will be voting for the Ulster Unionist Party and for the sectarian extremists of the Ulster Defence Association and the Ulster Volunteer

If the Catholics vote against the

sectarian extremists of the Loyalist Volunteer Force.

If the Protestants vote against the agreement they will be voting with Indeed, it is so compellingly ex- the republican extremists of the

What sort of ch put before decent, peaceful people? What kind of an "agreement" have Tony Blair, Mo Mowlam, and Senator George Mitchell concocted? ANDREW BOYD

Genetic patents

Newtownabbey, Co Antrim

Sir. Recent moves by the European Parliament to adopt the fundamentally flawed Legal Protection of Biotechnological Inventions Directive (report, 13 May) are worrying, to say the least.

This Directive blurs the line further between what constitutes an invention and a discovery, at a time when ethical considerations should be at the forefront of decisionmaking. Sadly, it seems such considerations come a distant second to the profiteering of industry.

People have the right to be asked before samples are taken from their bodies and patented. Under this Directive, that right will not exist.

Genetic modification of animals is one of the fastest growing areas of animal experimentation in the UK. In 1996, over 300,000 procedures involving genetically manipulated animals were carried out - an increase of 525 per cent since 1990.

This Directive will give the goahead for yet more experiments to be carried out at an ever-increasing rate. How does this lie with Labour's pledge to reduce animal experiments? Yet again, we see strong talk but little action.

Now is the time to have a wideranging debate on genetic engineering before we make decisions we

Paisley, the Orange Order, and the den revolution is taking place that nobody voted for. NORMAN BAKER MP

> (Lewes, Lib Dem) House of Commons London SWI The writer is Liberal Democrat

Sir: James Mustoe, in his letter about "super-genes" (13 May) says that the female élite are the "prettiest girls", whereas the male élite are the "cleverest boys". How long will it take for the message to get through? My wife, who is a clever woman, and I are losing hope... TIM BARRACLOUGH London SE13

Real nappies

Sir: Ani Harris (letter, 9 May) asks just how "clean" reusable nappies are. The "vile chemical" we use to sanitise our reusables is that scourge of the environment, vinegar (as recommended by the manufacturers).

The "amazing temperature" we wash them at is 60 degrees and on average we do five half-loads every two weeks. If the weather is fine we hang them outside, otherwise they dry in the airing cupboard (we don't have a tumble drier). Hardly an environmental disaster. DAVID SHIRTLIFF

Loughborough, Leicestershire

Sir: Before our son was born, nearly seven years ago, I undertook a costbenefit analysis of traditional versus disposable nappies. I costed two dozen good-quality towelling nappies, with two buckets, sanitising powder and washing costs for two years. This total equated to the cost of disposable nappies for 16 weeks. I would urge all mothers to consider using traditional nappies for both environmental and economic reasons. HELEN WOOLLEY

Testing times

Sir: India has conducted underground weapon tests, and the United States complains that "this runs counter to the effort the international community is making to promulgate a comprehensive ban on such

The United States' objections would be more soundly based if it had not over the years supported Israel's nuclear weapons and itself recently been developing new types of nuclear weapons that happen not to need testing.

Since the 1960s, when the Non-Proliferation Treaty was being negotiated, India has been quite consistent: either there is a general and comprehensive disarmament system - in which the United States and the other nuclear powers participate - or there is not. There is not. ELIZABETH YOUNG London W2

Double tunnel vision

Sir: I read with interest Stephen Plowden's article (13 May) and his views on a high-speed rail link from St Pancras to the Channel Tunnel.

However I must point out that his opening gambit that the road tunnel under the Channel is the "latest wheeze from Eurotunnel" is wholly inaccurate.

Under the 1986 Concession Agreement, Eurotunnel is obliged to present plans to the British and French governments for a road tunnel under the Channel. We shall obviously fulfil that obligation. SARAH KENDALL

W²E

Nois^M

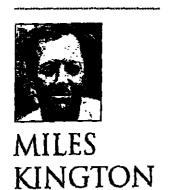
greet.

Director of Communications Eurotunnel Folkestone, Kent

Sir: Stephen Plowden takes a typically London-centred view.

The tunnel links not London to Paris but Great Britain to Europe, and should not be considered finished until there are fast links from all parts of Britain. I look forward to the day when Paris is not three hours from London but five from Newcastle, JAMES MURPHY

An article about a programme about a book about Hemingway, papa of post-modernism



207.07

I HAD TO go up to London the other day and who should I bump into but my old friend Adrian Wardour-Street? Adrian, as you may know, is the doyen of British PR.

"What are you up to," I cried. "I?" said Adrian, steering me expertly into a passing coffee house. "I am in the business of buying you a coffee. Espresso? Cappuccino? Latte?" "Latte isn't coffee," I said. "It's the Ital-

ian word for milk." "They are so behind the times in your part of the world," said Adrian "You'll be

telling me next that post-modernism basn't reached you in the provinces yet." "What exactly is it when it's at home?"

"I'm not sure if it has or not," I said. "Well, it's the stage that culture reaches when it does more borrowing than creating. At least, I think it is Pop records created from other records... novels that revisit other nov-

els... films which interpret one period in

terms of another... lives of people which might be biographies and might be novels..." "Was the film Time Bandits postmodernist then?"

"I expect so," said Adrian, vaguely. "This new project of Michael Palin's is sort of post-modernist,"

"Palin?" I said. "Lord, what's he up to now? Walking round the world diagonally?" "No, no - apparently he's retracing Ernest Hemingway's steps through Spain, Cuba, Africa, everywhere. The point is that Michael Palin wrote a novel called Hemingway's Chair, which was about a bloke who is obsessed with Hemingway. Now Palin is making a film in which he himself is obsessed with Hemingway. So the programme will pose lots of post-modernist questions. Like: is it about Palin or about Hemingway? Or is it even about the character in Palin's book? Would Palin make a programme about an author who hadn't gone to such

nice places? Is it about the real Hemingway or the mythical Hemingway? See?"

"Well, here's another example. The programme series I'm working on at the moment, which I'm presenting...' "Which YOU'RE presenting?"

"... is actually based on lots of other programmes in a very post-modernist way," said Adrian, ignoring me as usual. "I don't know if you ever saw Coast to Coast with Janet Street-Porter?"

"Some of it," I said, "Wasn't it all about" Janet Street-Porter bumping into some of her London friends who had been specially driven out into the country for the purpose?" "Exactly," said Adrian, "Now, this se-

ries I'm making is all about MY encounters with people making other programmes. As I journey across Britain I bump into Janet Street-Porter... I encounter the Antiques Road Show and get

something valued... I come round a corner and there is Lucinda Lambton inspecting the last Georgian public loo in Rutland... Another corner, and there are Darcus Howe and Peregrine Worsthorne,

being terribly interracial on their travels." "So your programme is a programme which is entirely made up of extracts from other programmes?"

"Yes. But it's cleverer than that." "How?"

"Because these bits have never appeared in the other programmes. My encounter with Janet Street-Porter appears in MY programme but not in hers. I get a Victorian pot valued by the Antiques Road Show people - but not for the Antiques Road Show. Only for my programme. So although in a way my programme is all offcuts from other programmes, and couldn't exist without their existence, yet also what you see is peculiar to my programme."

€

My bead swam.

good idea....

"And what are you going to call the programme, or the series, rather?"

Consett, Co Durham

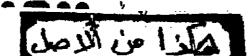
"The Ultimate Post-Modernist Show." Will people know what that means?" "No. So instead we're going to call it

Hello, Mr Palin." "But is Michael Palin in it ?"

"Not necessarily. But was Hemingway in Hemingway's Chair? Was the Pope in The Pope's Rhinoceros? Was Stalin in Stalin's Nose? Was ... "

"When is the series going out?" I said, trying to stem the flood.

"That's the clever thing," said Adrian. That's the really post-modernist thing about it. It's never going out. We're not doing it for transmission. Must dash. See you - clao! I later found out he had made up the whole idea and it was just a leg-pull. Trouble is, I keep thinking it's actually quite a



Why I applaud the books of men who tell it like it is



SUZANNE MOORE

"MEN have become the new women". Wonderful. I read that in these very pages. Men are oppressed by "the coming orthodoxy: female good, male bad". If men have become the new women I better get some more of them. There is the ironing to be done, the kids to be put to bed and I'll have an extra one to run a hot bath for me when I stumble in from the pub having sexually harassed the barman.

David Aaronovitch is upset that female journalists such as myself have said nasty things about men. He was referring to the remarks I made about Paul Johnson. Did I suggest that "all mea are wankers"? No. I will leave it for men to say that about themselves and what a good case they are making for such a gross generalisation.

Recently I have read a number of books by men about men and I have enjoyed them immensely. Hanif Kureishi's Intimacy is a novella about a man leaving his children and partner for his younger mistress. Howard Jacobson's No More Mister Nice Guy is about a man in a mid-life crisis ranting his way around Middle England and John Updike's Toward the End of Time has a man confronting the waning of his sexual power. All these books have been accused of misogyny, but I admire their brutal sexual honesty.

Kureishi's Intimacy has been controversial because it has been read as entirely autobiographical and therefore as a mean-spirited attack on the mother of his children. Yet apart from the fact that you cannot legislate the subjects that writers choose, Jay, the narrator of Intimacy, comes over as a pompous, selfish and deluded man. While critics have noted his bitchiness towards the woman he leaves - her crimes being that she is highly organised, reads cookbooks in bed, is getting older, thinks herself a feminist but is merely "bad-tempered", cries during a therapy session with a "fat, red, weeping face" - Kureishi is doing no more than document how it feels to fall out of love with

His real subject, why men leave children, is surely immensely important and relevant. There is no point saying that "all men are bastards" if we do not know how it feels to kiss your children goodnight knowing that you will never live with them again. Is Kureishi a misogynist simply because he is describing how an individual man feels about an individual woman? I think not.

When Howard Jacobson and John Undike reduce their female characters to little more than a threatening, but desirable, range of body parts, and yet spend their lives in pursuit of these parts, is that misogyny? Or is it an insight into how some men feel? At the end of Updike's novel, Ben Turnball has become impotent and is wearing nappies but is still dream- on earth, he'd be gone." All is fair in love and ing of the glory days when he could have three women in his lunch-hour. Frank Ritz, who fancies himself as Rabelaisian is driven to under-nice as they think they are and nice girls nevage prostitutes to satisfy himself but eventually er got anywhere.

returns home to the woman he has left.

Of course there may be sensitive flowers who do not want to believe that men behave this way and that, instead, they stay at home working through their relationships; but let us deal with the real world. What certain men seem so upset about is that a woman might assume that they are like other men.

Such men always reassure us with the information that they really do like women, so may I reassure you all that I really find all male company totally thrilling but that will not stop my sense of injustice at the way the world is run. If it is "hatespeak" to generalise about an entire gender I plead guilty, yet I find myself living in a world of "hatespeak" towards women. It is called common sense, or having a laugh, or in better circles, irony.

While I would agree with Aaronovitch that the future is female and we must worry about the sullen, disaffected male youth who are so lacking in self-esteem that they can only regress, I wonder what is to be done. For it seems as if there are two types of men in the world: middle-class ones with a nice line in selfdeprecating humour and this other sad kind. Are these two types not related at all?

It is not women who are disowning the maladaptive dinosaurs in our midst; it is also other men who discuss them as if they were creatures from another planet. Is this merely a question of class and education? - because if it is then we could easily teach our boys to be nicer. Lottery money could be poured into institutions that promised to churn out men

who don't mind doing child care. Obviously it's not so easy to produce a more up-to-date and decent model of masculinity, so we have to look at what constitutes masculinity for men themselves. This is why I applaud the works of men who tell it like it is. Such work stands alongside other equally mud-

Why men leave children is immensely important and relevant

dled but sweeter, more gentle versions of manhood of the Nick Homby variety.

There is no new orthodoxy that women are good and men are bad. That is the old orthodoxy. That is why women are supposed to have a civilising effect on men. That is why women are left bringing up the babies, because they are so "good" they won't just walk out. That is why having it all means doing it all, because women find it difficult to be as "bad" as the men. That is why women do not make it to the top, because they just don't have the killer instinct.

No, I would prefer some honesty. We are all a mixture of good and bad; it's just that men's badness is socially sanctioned. Nice guys might be offended by this, but I'm sure they can always find some worn-out women to console them.

Howard Jacobson has Frank Ritz say at the end of his novel: "For two pins, if there were somewhere worth going, if there were some other war worth fighting, if this field of blood were not the most transfixingly interesting place war. In order to fight the good fight we may have to acknowledge that nice guys aren't as

While Robin Cook fails to live up to his advance billing, look out for John Prescott



DONALD MACINTYRE

THE Sandline affair is very far from being a first order crisis. Nor will it become one even if Peter Penfold, the British High Commissioner, turns out to have discussed military coups with President Kabbah and someone from a mercenary group in some fly-blown hotel bar in Conakry. But it shows a stubborn reluctance to lie

Yesterday was not the Foreign Office's finest hour. Appearing before a Commons Select committee, Sir John Kerr, the Permanent Secretary, exonerated Robin Cook of knowing about the Customs and Excise investigation into Sandline before he says he did. He made a convincing, if magisterial, case for allowing competent officials to deal with breaches of UN sanctions without constantly referring them upwards to ministers before they have been investigated.

And he then left a shadow of doubt over the future of the Minister of State, Tony Lloyd, by saying, firstly, that he thought a reference to the "rather routine" Customs and Excise investigation had been included in the official briefing pack given to him before an adjournment debate on 12 March. And secondly, that Lloyd, and not Cook, had been the minister initially told in April of Sandline's counter-allegations that FCO officials had been in cahoots with the company's plans to restore President Kabbah by military force.

All this seemed perfectly coherent. Until 4pm yesterday afternoon, when Sir John then announced that Mr Lloyd had, after all, not been told on 12 March that there was a Customs and Excise investigation. Which bees a question officials were last night unable to answer, why on earth not? Nevertheless, the question

of who knew what, when which so obsessed Sir John's inquisitors - is in danger of overshadowing some larger ones that seemed not to interest them at all. Had it, in retrospect,

been so smart to draft a UN resolution which made it as unlawful to help the "good guys" (to use Tony Blair's phrase) in Sierra Leone as to help the bad guys? What is the balance to strike between the need to limit the appalling flow of paper to ministers in any big government department and the need to

And while officials now turn out to be have been a good deal more reticent than they should have been, did Robin Cook really have to make a drama out of a crisis by reacting at the outset of the affair as if not he, but possibly his department, could be embroiled in the sort of rerun of the Scott affair that this certainly wasn't?

alert them to perils ahead.

Cook is probably the cleverest man in the Cabinet. His handling of complex EU negotiations has been pretty well faultless. His conduct of business in official meetings is decisive, brisk, and efficient. Sir John's account yesterday of how Cook, hungry for insights, cross questioned him on a range of world issues late into the night when they first met in Washington is wholly convincing. I have it on the disinterested authority of the German ambassador to the EU that his chairmanship of the General Affairs council during the EU Presidency is exemplary.

No less a predecessor than Lord Hurd refuses to condemn the trouble he got into in India and the Middle East, on the grounds that there but for the grace of God he might have

gone himself. And, finally, Sir John's belated "clarification" last night demonstrates that on at least one occasion during the Sandline affair, officials were unnecessarily economical with the truth in their dealings with ministers.

There is nevertheless a mounting sense, compounded by the harassment Cook faces over the business Britain does with the brutal regime in Indonesia, that not all is well in the department be is responsible for running.

First there is his initial judgement in announcing, in a

up, incapable of driving policy. George Brown without the drink problem, even, perhaps, in Attlee's chilling words about a colleague "not up to it." It doesn't look like that now. Indeed the closest parallel to Prescott's role in the

Prescott, who happens to be the

other most prominent left-

winger in the Cabinet. If you

had asked many politicians a

Government appears to be that blaze of publicity, an ethical for- of William Whitelaw under

John Monks, the general secyear ago who would be in trouretary of the TUC. But Prescott ble at this stage of the Parliaeffectively becomes its guarment Prescott would have figured prominently in the anantor. He has remained remarkably true to the principle swers. Unstable, liable to blow he formulated during the 1994 leadership contest: that he would disagree, if necessary, with his leader in private, but defend him in public. This doesn't mean that

everything in his department is perfect; far from it. The part-privatisation of the London Underground, for example, is a high-risk and possibly high-cost blend of old and New Labour. But Prescott shows every sign of being able to subordinate, perhaps more skillfully than some of his colleagues, his own ego to the interests of the Government collective

compromise; a good deal of it

is owed to the DTI minister Ian

McCartney and the highly de-

veloped negotiating skills of

And he should get his reward next month with a Transport White Paper that contains, despite opposition in some other parts of government, his cherished policy of road pricing in

smooth trajectory of John

The Foreign Office is now the bed of nails the Home Office traditionally was

eign policy. This is not to say cynically that he shouldn't have pursued one; rather that should have not announced it in advance, allowing every subsequent sale of arms, every into real influence. It was nevcontact with a dubious regime er completely clear whether his to be judged against it.

Secondly relations between officials and ministers have been - at least temporarily brought to a new low by an affair that should never have been allowed to run out of control as it has. Suddenly the Foreign Office has become the bed of nails the Home Office traditionally was and now - so

The stranger contrast, however, is perhaps with John

biguous. His dilemma, as Prescott's sometimes is, is how to convert his indispensability main function was to restrain Margaret Thatcher's worst excesses or to ensure that the non-Thatcherites in the party put up with them, on the principle that "if it's OK with Willie, it's OK with us." Some of this is apparent in

Margaret Thatcher. True, Whitelaw's role was always am-

the close attention paid by Prescott to the terms of the compromise all but agreed yesterday on trade union recognition. Prescott wasn't the main player in reaching that Prescott since May 1.

urban areas, including London. Cook will certainly not be moved in the next reshuffle; he remains one of the Cabinet's big beasts. Moreover he has time. as Lord Hurd pointed out yesterday, to rebuild the morale and coherence of his department. But there must be times when he looks across Whitehall to the office of the Deputy. Prime Minister and envies the

Don't just offer advice, Mr Cruickshank, do something useful

William Hartston

offers a practical way to squash the millennium bug

THERE are two theories about the millennium bug: Theory One - the Doomsday Scenario - says that when computers click over to the year 2000 the whole of the western economy will collapse, planes will crash and lights will go out all over Europe, but none of that will matter because we'll all be killed by the stray nuclear missiles launched automatically

Major blessing

THE TABLOIDS were trying to track down John Major in America

yesterday for a quote about his son's

engagement. Pandora is happy to

help. Talking to

a friend recent-

ly about Emma

Noble, his highly

photogenic fu-

ture daughter-

in-law, the ex-

Prime Minister

said, "She's even

nicer in the

from ex-Soviet millenniumnon-compliant computers.

Theory Two, however, says that all these scare stories are just part of the Millennium Scam - a get-rich-quick conspiracy of lawyers and computer consultants charging exorbitant fees to tell companies there's nothing to worry about. (So far, the lawyers are doing best: more money has been invested in assessing the legal implications of millennial meltdown than in tackling the prob-

lem itself.) Action 2000, the bugbusting arm of the Department of Trade and Industry, run by Don Cruickshank, appears to take an optimistic version of the Doomsday view: a huge disaster threatens, but it's not too late to do something about it. But are

they doing the right things? Efforts have been concentrated in two principal directions: alerting the nation's businesses to test their systems in good time; and the training of an army of 20,000 technicians to return to their of-

fices and squash bugs. For large businesses, with purpose-built computer systems, such an individual approach is essential, yet in a country of four million small businesses the present mood of controlled panic is creating unnecessary work and confusion.

It's the single-PC companies who are being let down by our computer-welfare state. Every company that keeps its accounts on a standard off-thepeg spreadsheet, running on a popular computer make, has to find out for itself whether the

two are millennium-compatible. And if they are not, whether this will create significant problems.

By now, sufficient tests have surely been done to collate enough information on a floppy disk to give most small busi nesses a simple method of diagnosing the areas in which they might face problems. Most of the hard work has already been done, yet every firm is having to repeat it. The avoidance of such repetitive work is exactly what computer technology does

If Action 2000 were to send every VAT-registered business such a diagnostic floppy disk, it. could save the nation billions. Estimates of the effect of the millennium bug on the British economy range from an eco-.

nomic armageddon-sized loss of cost of performing repetitive di-29 per cent of GDP, to a bestcase scenario of 1 per cent of businesses going bust. That's 40,000 firms and around half a million added to the unemployment figures.

Yet the remit of Action 2000 from the DTI prevents it from doing anything so useful. It is there to train and inform, to aid the every-man-forhimself culture, rather than producing something of general use. Yet every business needs all the help it can get - not only to test its own systems, but to be reassured that suppliers and clients are not going to let it

Of the £97m package announced last month to tackle the milleanium bug, a large proportion will be eaten up in the

agnostic tasks. One research project and four million floppy disks would save a lot of

And even those costs could

be cut drastically were the British and US governments to pass legislation making it mandatory for Microsoft and other leading software companies to come clean on which of their programs are going to foul up on 1 January 2000.

The way things are going, both our initial theories may be proved right: the computer consultants will become millennium millionaires, then they will be killed off with the rest of us by the failure of some vital system that went unchecked while they were coining their

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Street smart

DERRY to the rescue! On Thesday, the ed that funding continue.

final day of the Lord Chancellor's visit to Washington, he arrived at

Georgetown University Law Center to discover that he was expected to give a speech. Lord Irvine of Lairg promptly improvised for 15 minutes. including the revelation that he and Mao Tse-tung were the only two honorary life members of the London School of Economics student union. Afterwards, Derry met with a

group of poor youths from the Bell Multicultural School who belong to a "street law" club. The club was in danger of losing its funding from Washington's municipal school board, but a representative of the board was present. After watching the Lord Chancellor spend an hour "rapping" with the tough kids, the official went back to the office and demand-

THE start of the Royal Windsor

Horse opera

Horse Show today must give Mohamed Al Fayed a cold shudder. After 13 years of Harrods sponsorship, in January the show's organisers ruthlessly dropped the Knightsbridge store as sponsor in favour of the Bond Street jewellers Asprey, who had made a higher bid. "This was entirely a commercial decision." said Simon Brooks-Ward, chairman of Windsor Equestrian Promotions. Perbaps, but there's no secret about the Royal revulsion towards Mr Faved since the death of Princess Diana and his remarks about an "Establishment

sured his annual photo-opportunity he hosted a lavish Saturday lunch in the Harrods tent where his late son Dodi was in sparkling form at one table, telling amusing but fond anec-

It's well known that Mr Fayed trea-

On the other hand, Asprey's owner. Prince Jefri Bolkiah, the Sultan of sends up the \$20bn man. Brunei's brother and no stranger to controversy himself, cannot be bothered to fill Mr Fayed's old seat in the have his photo taken with the Queen. Prince Charles's in a match at Cirencester. But that's a private affair. not a commercial decision.

Egyptian.

Nerd flick

with the Queen at Windsor. Last year MICROSOFT'S Bill Gates faces more than just a potentially disastrons federal anti-trust action. Hollywood is now on his case. Michael Tolkin, author of the novel upon which Robert dotes about his father. How different Altman's scathing satire about the film things are this May for the grieving industry, The Player, was based, has teamed up with Sydney Pollack and Parameunt to produce a film that

.... According to the Web's Drudge Report, Tolkin has said, "We wanted to make a movie about the most fasci-Windsor Royal Box tomorrow. Or to nating person in our culture right now, and we wanted to ask the question He's not expected back in Britain un- "Why does anybody need \$200m?"" The til June when his polo team takes on answer is obvious to Pandora. With \$20bn, if the prospect of being lampooned makes you cross, you can always buy the movie studio.

Bert Gough

"NO BAIRNS in Fife will have cellor of the Exchequer, was one empty bellies." In the most fraught days of the 1984 miners' strike, these eight words reverberated round not only the coalfields, the innumerable. mushrooming mining support the convenor of Fife Regional groups, but up and down the Council we will treat the elderly land. The words were those of Bert Gough, Convenor of Fife Regional Council from 1978 to he pioneered free travel for 1996, a longer span than anyone else has had recently at the head of a major local authority.

South of Hadrian's Wall-or at least south of the Wash - people, Downing Street insiders, pundits, all express themselves perplexed that the Scots should be so disaffected and disdainful of New Labour. Part of the explanation lies in the widespread belief that there is a heck of a lot that is estimable in Old Labour. The life - "career" would be a misplaced word - of Bert Gough is an epitome of old, possibly ancient Labour with many concomitant virtues.

Gough was a man of power in the Kingdom of Fife for four decades. Until his pit closed and he became a Co-Operative Insurance agent he would very likely for the first three decades come to a meeting straight from a hard night-shift at the Welleslev pit, His Old Labour quality was enshrined in passionate beliefs. "Down the pit we did not take money to the disadvantage of our fellow men. That is also the way that Fife Council will work. He led a council and a region which, despite an overwhelming oneparty, Labour majority for many years, was never tainted with sleaze or impropriety.

Gordon Brown, the Chan-

of Gough's political sons. Brown recalls affectionately, "Bert had a unique way of speaking - for example he would say, Inasmuch as I am and the disabled as royally as we can' " - which meant that those within entitlement to concessionary fares.

Gough vehemently believed that the elderly should not be cooped up in their homes. And he was the driving force behind the first introduction in Britain of free concessionary travel for senior citizens. The present Chancellor admires Gough not only for his pioneering ideas but also that for 20 years he sustained them by, in the most difficult circumstances, renegotiating free travel with the bus companies.

At my last lunch with him in his headquarters at Glenrothes he pointedly asked me, "Does New Labour believe that we should be our brother's keeper?" I ducked that one and went off at a tangent. With a twinkle in his eye, which could be steely, he directly remarked, "Come on, Tam, you changed the subject."

He was enormously shrewd and when John Markland, the council's current Chief Executive, asked Gough what he made of the Shadow Employment Secretary, Tony Blair MP, on a visit to Fife in the early 1990s he got the laconic answer, "That boy Blair will be Prime Minister one day!"

Born in East Wemyss in 1924, Bert Gough went to the village school, left on his 14th birthday and was down the



Wellesley pit in neighbouring Buckhaven the next morning.

His father was active in the NUM branch and in his lateteens Gough was given trade union and Labour Party responsibilities. Unlike most of his contemporaries in Fife he resisted the attractions of the Moffat brothers, Willie Gallacher and the Communist Party.

In 1956, Gough was elected to the Buckhaven and Methil Town Council, a conspicuously talented local authority having

amongst its members John McArthur, David Proudfoot and Andrew Goodwillie, In immimerable elections over the next 40 years defeat was unknown to him; he won them all, because, in the words of Lord Ewing (the former MP Harry Ewing), everybody recognised his worth.

. I first met Gough in 1966 when he had just become the youngest Provost ever of Buckhaven and Methil and was among a local authority delegation to Westminster. No one ar-

the Dragon School, Oxford,

Repton and Trinity College,

Oxford. The seeds for his future

out" as a VSO secondary school

teacher in Swaziland in 1960.

The southern African connec-

tion was renewed with his ap-

gued the case for educational spending more eloquently and he it was in the council who gave the financial backing to Douglas McIntosh in creating balf a dozen technical colleges in Fife.

As Henry McLeish, now Minister of State at the Scottish Office, puts it, Gough, with his supportive wife Margaret. championed the cause of Fife's remaining as a Kingdom during local government reform in the 1970s, and acted as a ried 1945 Margaret Arnott (two sors); wonderful ambassador for Fife. died Kirkcaldy, Fife II May 1998.

The late Hamish Dunlop, the former Chief Executive, apprehensive about the force of Convenor Gough's crunching handshake, entreated him at a royal visit in 1982 to press the Queen's hand gently. He did. Tam Dalyeli

Robert Gough, coalminer and politician: born East Wernyss, Fife ! August 1924; Convenor, Fife Regional Council 1978-96; CBE 1990; mar-

ate Admissions Tutor and co-

authored the department's two

internal reviews. Most signifi-

cantly, he was one of the archi-

tects of the Law Faculty's success

in the 1996 Research Assessment

Exercise when it achieved the

recognition of a Grade 5

ranking for research excellence.

Godfrey Kenton

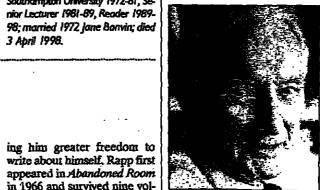
GODFREY KENTON made his last appearance on the stage in Stairway to Heaven, a musical play, at the King's Head Theatre in Islington, on 21 November 1994, at the age of 92. His début had been made at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on 15 May 1922, so that this stalwart of the British stage contributed to it an astonishing 72 years of service. It was appropriate that his final appearance was as a messenger of God, because all his life he was blessed with one of the finest and most distinctive voices of his time. Originally intended for a

career in the Church, he duly studied for at theological college. However, the lure of the theatre was too strong and I doubt that he ever regretted his decision. Despite a career that had as many lows as highs in it. he must have been outstandingly handsome in his youth, for he maintained his good looks almost to the end of his life - at the age of nearly 90, he was still in fine fettle and looked at least 25 years younger.

After a period of study at Rada, and the usual round of smaller parts, he joined Lena Ashwell's company for two years as leading juvenile. He was with the Stratford-upon-Avon Festival company for two seasons in 1925 and 1926 playing second juvenile leads - these were still the days when actors were engaged to play a recognised "line" of parts, so that, if As You Like It was in the repertory, you knew that, as second juvenile, you would be playing Silvins and not Orlando.

Shakespeare, in fact, beame the central passion of Kenton's professional life, and it would seem from his listings in Who's Who in the Theatre that he rarely turned down an opportunity to appear in any of the plays. It is worth noting that to have a specific career as a Shakespearean actor is not an option in the English theatre of At Southampton he served for eight years as Undergraduthe 1990s.

He appeared at the Old Vic in 1930 as Malcolm to John Gielgud's Macbeth and as Fenton in The Merry Wives of Windsor. He was Orsini in Twelfth Night at the gala opening of the rebuilt Sadler's Wells, and was therefore the first actor to speak in the new theatre. But, only two years later, the insecurities of the actor's life forced him to accept the small part of Poins in Henry IV part I with George Robey as Falstaff, at His Majesty's. In between these



Kenton: Shakespearean

London appearances, he did seasons with the Birmingham and Northampton repertory companies and two Malvern Festivals, where the new plays of George Bernard Shaw were tried out. He appeared in the world premiere of Shaw's The Simpleton of the Unexpected Isles and as Tom Wrench in Arthur

Pinero's Trelawny of the "Wells".

the premiere of Rodney Ackland's fine play After October in 1936, but it was the 1937 Stratford season that brought him to real prominence - his parts included Oberon, Edgar to Randle Ayrton's Lear, and Laertes to the Hamlet of his contemporary Donald Wolfit, who was also playing Kent in King Lear. This became, after the Second World War, Wolfit's most admired role, and Kenton always maintained that many very touching details and general "business" were copied by Wolfit from Ayrton's great performance. Never mind, the point is Wolfit most certainly made them all his own. Kenton was in a particularly good position to judge this, as he later played Edmund to Wolfit's own

King Lear Two months after the war started in 1939, Kenton played Brutus in a well-received modero dress production of Julius Caesar at the Embassy and His Majesty's. The Stratford season of 1940 saw him as Romeo, Mark Antony and Orsino, after which he joined the BBC for the duration of the war. He joined the Donald Wolfit Shakespeare company as the war was ending and toured all over the country.

Even Wolfit's sympathetic biographer, Ronald Harwood, likened the atmosphere in the company to that of a concentration camp, but, according to Kenton, he was more or less left to get on with it, and he soon accustomed himself to the Stygian gloom allotted to the supporting company by the actor-manager. It was, at least, Shakespeare. .

He much enjoyed a trip to New York to appear with Robert Morley in Edward, My. Son in 1948 - this was his second visit as he had made his début on Broadway in 1938, as Alan, the sensitive son, in J.B. Priestley's Time and the Conways. Shortly after his return, he joined the BBC Drama Repertory Company, and devoted

much of the latter part of his career to broadcasting - he was still appearing occasionally in radio plays well into his nineties.

He was on the "Rep" for three two-year periods, plus three years with the BBC Schools "Rep". He also did a great deal of freelance broadcasting between his periods of full employment, and returned to the theatre whenever opportunities allowed. He played Solanio in The Merchant of Venice at the Haymarket in 1967 with Ralph Richardson, always one of his favourite actors. as Shylock.

But it was his voice that became his fortune, and he must have appeared in literally hundreds of radio plays. It was a beautiful voice with a very distinctive gravity in its tone, and his use of it was masterly. I don't believe that I ever heard (or saw) him give an unconsidered or undistinguished performance. He took his work far too seriously for that.

Godfrey Kenton was, in truth, a model professional actor. I can think of no higher

Richard Bebb

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Godfrey William Kenton, actor: born London 13 April 1902; married first Vivienne Bennett (marriage dissolved), second Mary Whitfield (two sons; marriage dissolved), third Ann Broadhurst (one son, one duughter; marriage dissolved); died A notable appearance was in London 27 April 1998.

Sebastian Poulter

SEBASTIAN POULTER was the leading British academic in the field of the law relating to ethnic minority customs. This followed naturally from his early work on the legal system of

Appointed to a lectureship in law at Southampton in 1972, he rose steadily up the academic ladder to a senior lectureship in 1981 and a readership in 1989. At the time of his death, he was on the verge of being awarded a personal chair. His substantial list of publications during this period included Family Law and Litigation in Basotho Society (1976), English Law and Ethnic Minority Customs (1986), Asian Traditions



Poulter: pathbreaking

and English Law (1990) and, shortly before his death, Ethnicity, Law, and Human Rights: the English experience (1998). This last book demonstrated his perceptive ability to analyse particular social problems in their legal context, to bring to them a creative and critical insight and to give legal the- career were sown in his "year ory a practical application. The book, a testament to his life's work, explores the policies and principles which should govern legal responses to ethnic di-

eminence in the field led to his Lesotho and Swaziland. His co-authorship of the Report of the Runnymede Commission on Islamophobia (1997) and to work as pathbreaking work. advising the Commission for Racial Equality on the legal as-

pects of religious discrimination.

pointment in 1967 as lecturer versity in contemporary Britain. (later senior lecturer) in law at Poulter's recognised pre- the University of Botswana, early publications on Lesotho's His 1979 article in the Moden legal structure were recognised Law Review on the definition of 1977 for a two-year secondment an extraordinarily dedicated

middle-class upbringing in post-fairness and impartiality led to questionnaires.

"fearful" task of chairing the Government Pardons Committee advising on the exercise of the prerogative of mercy. Sebastian Poulter was the em-

war Britain, being educated at the onerous and in his words

bodiment of the essential link between teaching and research in a top-class university. As well as his specialist course in the law relating to ethnic minority customs, he fashioned a distinctive family law course at Southampton. marriage in English law re-He returned to Lesotho in mains a seminal piece. He was as Professor and Head of De-teacher who invariably scored He had a conventional partment. His reputation for very highly on course evaluation

David Jackson

and Nick Wikeley Sebastian Murray Poulter, legal scholar: born Abingdon, Berkshire 12 August 1942; Lecturer in Law, Southampton University 1972-81, Senior Lecturer 1981-89, Reader 1989-98; married 1972 Jane Bonvin; died 3 April 1998.

Hermann Lenz

HERMANN LENZ explained in an interview in 1978 that for him literature was a possibility of finding himself. He also worked on the principle, "You can only know your own truth and not one valid for all." Despite this existentialist standpoint, he was celebrated towards the end of his life as a chronicler of German life and times.

Born in Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg, in 1913 into a middle-class family, Lenz studied art history, archaeology, German and theology in Tübingen, Heidelberg and Munich. Brought up in an extreme na-

tionalist home, he said later he could not understand his father's passion. He did not, however, attempt to contradict him. He welcomed the restoration of German unity in 1990 but in a

Lenz saw action in the infantry in the Second World War serving in France and on the Eastern Front, experiences that subsequently influenced his work. He returned to his "beloved" Stuttgart in 1946. where he married.

He had started writing before the war, publishing sever-

writing during his wartime service. His first post-war work was House"), published in 1947. In 1949 Das doppelte Gesicht "The Double Face") appeared. In the first, the outer demonic world of hatred, destruction and insanity is contrasted with the order of the inner world. Both novels display a dreamlike quality in response to the world and its problems.

These early works seemed to put Leaz on the road to success with other writers of his general short stories and poems. He ation like Heinrich Böll. But he

broke military regulations by was to be disappointed. His literary activities did not enable him to support himself and Das stille Haus ("The Quiet he worked from 1951 to 1971 as secretary of the South German writers' association.

Despite this existence as a functionary he did not see himself as a political animal, nor as a political writer like Böll Gunter Grass, Hans Werner Richter or his namesake, Siegfried Lenz, with whom he is occasionally confused. He got neither the publicity nor the literary acclaim they received in the 1950s and 1960s. He continued writing and in 1959 Der

russische Regenbogen ("The Russian Rainbow") was praised for its penetrating psychological insights and lyrical language. In 1962 Lenz seemed to

break new ground with Spiegelhutte ("Mirror Cottage") with its elements of "magical realism". These contributed later on to his introspective observations of the decaying middle class. However, it was in the 1970s that he first achieved overwhelming success: for his Schwäbische Chronik ("Swabian Chronicle") featuring an alter ego, the fictional writer Eugen Rapp. He defended this ploy as giv-

David Childs

but not yet English.

umes, the last of which, Freunde

("Friends"), appeared last year. These books brought Lenz

fame as a "chronicler of our cen-

tury" and literary prizes fol-

lowed. He won recognition

abroad and was translated into

Spanish, French and Italian -

Hermann Lenz, writer: born Stategart 26 February 1913; married; died Munich 12 May 1998.

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

BIRTHS

HENDERSON: On Monday 11 May, to Susan Payne and William Hen-derson, a son, James Ralph, at St

DEATHS

SAUNDERS: Basil, on 10 May 1998, at Edenhall Marie Curie Centre. Beloved insband of the late Betty Saunders, loved and missed by sons Bill and Eddy, daughters Kate, Louisa, Erta and Charlotte, and grandchildren Tom, George, Felix and Elsa, Funeral, 18 May, 3pm, St Mary Brookfield, Dattmouth Park Road, London Wills: Expensives UTI-1485. London NW5. Enquiries 0171-485

SMITH: Mrs Edna Mary of Walton-on-Thannes. Died at Walton Hospital on Thantes. Died at Walton Hospital on 11 May 1998, aged 72, after a long illness. Funeral Service to be held at St Mary's Church, Walton-on-Thames, on 21 May at 200. Pamily flowers only but donations if desired to Christian Aid clo F.W. Chitty & Co. 26 Brassey House. New Zealand Avenue. Walton-on-Thames, 01932 254255.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Prince of Whites visits Mules and Hawer, North Yorkshire, and as Petros, the Yorkshire Dates Millemium Figet, wide Craton, North Yorkshire. The Dube of York opens the new Elizabeth Marina, St Heffer, Incarp; and, as Parron, attends a dinner given by the Royal Jersey Call. Club at the Royal Hotel, David Place, St Heiler, The Princess Hoyal, Presiden, Riding for the Denbett Americation, attends the Rea Willey Group Sth Amberturary Celebrations and opens a power.

Birthdays Sir James Baddiley, biochemist, 80;

Sir William Batty, former chairman, Ford Motor Co, 85; Mr David Boston, former Director, Horniman Museum, 67; Dame Eugenia Charles, former prime minister of Dominica, 79; Mr Ted Dexter, for-mer Eugland cricket captain, 63; Mr Brian Eno, rock musician and composer, 50; The Hon Sir David Gore-Booth, ambassador to India, 55; Mr Richard Hough, author, 76; Mr John Lanchbery, conductor and ballet composer, 75; Miss Barbara Lott, actress, 78; Mr Mike Oldfield, rock singer and guitarist, 45; Professor Philip Reynolds, former Vice-Philip Reynolds, former Vice-Chancellor, Lancaster University, 78; Mr Anthony Shaffer, playwright, 72; Mr Peter Shaffer, playwright, 72; Mr Peter Smith, High Commission-er to Lesotho, 56; Mr Neil Stacey, actor, 57; Mr Ralph Steadman, car-toonist, 62; Professor Sir Eric Stroud, paediatrician, 74; Sir David Trippier, former government minister, 52.

Anniversaries

Births: Lyman Frank Baum, author of The Winned of Oz. 1856; Frank Hornby, inventor of "Meccano". 1863; Edwin Muir, poet and transla-

'beilding at Berriewood Stad Farm, Condover, Stropping, as Patron, National Association of Cliness Advice Bureats, attends in: 25th Annoversary oclotherious of the Bureatskay became at the Roy Flancher Centre, Cross Hall, Strewelvery; as Patron, the Development Trust (for the Messale by Handleapped), opens a park Respite Home at Chromaste Rosel, Strewelvery; opens a printing press at the Stropping Sar Revespore, Rettey, Telford, Stropping; and visits the Lady Forester Day Care Centre, Bruckey, Stropping. The Date of Korn, President, the Royal National Lifebast

tor, 1887; James Mason, actor, 1909. tor, 1907; James Mason, actor, 1907; Deaths: Edmund Kean, actor, 1833; Emily Elizabeth Dickinson, poet, 1886; Joseph Whitaker, publisher and founder of Whitaker's Almanack, 1895; Rita Hayworth (Margarita Carmen Cansino), actress, 1987. On this day: the Ashmolean Museum was founded, 1679; the world's first air hostess. Ellen Church, flew in a Boeing 80A from Oakland, California to Cheyeme, Wyoming, 1930; a British nu-clear bomb was exploded at Christmas Island, in the central Pa-cific, 1957. Today is the Feast Day of Saints Bertha and Rupert, St Dym-phna, St Gerebernus, St Hallvard, St Hilary of Galeata. St Isaias of Rostov, St Isidore of Chios, St Isidore the Farmer, St Peter of Lampsacus and St Torquatus and his Companions.

Synagogue services Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 8.32pm.

United Synagogues 083-343 8989. Federation of Synagogues: 088-342 2262, Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 077-330 643. Reform Synagogues of Great Britains 083-349 4731. Spanogues for Synagogues Congregation: 077-289 2573. New London Synagogue (Nasorti): orn 228 9744

Changing of the Guard

LAW REPORT: 15 MAY 1998

Computer offences could be extradition crimes

Re Allison; Regina v Bow Street Magistrates' Court, ex parte Allison; Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Blofeld) 13 May 1998

IN THE CASE of a request for extradition made by the Government of the United States, offences contrary to sections 2 and 3 of the Computer Misuse Act 1990 were extradition crimes.

The Divisional Court dismissed applications for habeas corpus by Adeniyi Allison, and for judicial review by the US government and the Director of Public Prosecutions, both applications having been made in connection with extradition

The applicant had been arrested at the request of the US government pursuant to a provisional warrant in respect of three offences of conspiracy

named Joan Ojomo, a credit analyst employed by American Plantation, Florida. The magistrate decided to

commit the applicant only on the third of those offences. The US government and the Director of Public Prose-

cutions sought judicial review of the magistrate's decision not to commit on the first two offences, and the applicant, by proceedings for habeas corpus. sought to set aside the committal on the third offence, and another committal on unrelatcd offences connected with the State of Maryland,

Clare Montgomery QC and Helen Malcolm (Burton Copeland) for the opplicara; James Lewis (Crown Prosecution Service) for the Director of Public Prosecutions and the US government.

Lord Justice Kennedy said that the case for the US govwhich also involved a woman ernment was that Joan Ojomo, in relation to the United States,

thorised to access computer Express at their office in records and had supplied account information to her coconspirators which had enabled them to obtain a personal identification number from American Express, encode a credit card, and draw large sums of money from automatic teller

> The applicant contended, inter alia, that the three Florida offences alleged contraventions of ss 2 and 3 of the Computer Misuse Act 1990, and that in the case of a request for extradition made by the US government such contraventions were not extradition crimes.

Section 1(3) of the Extradition Act 1989 made clear that where an Order in Council under section 2 of the Extradition Act 1870 was in force in relation to a foreign state, which was agreed to be the position

as a credit card analyst, was au- *schedule 1 to the 1989 Act should have effect in relation to that State "subject to the limitations, restrictions, conditions, exceptions and qualifications, if any, contained in the Order". Having regard to the word-

ing of the 1989 Act it was only necessary, to determine whether offences contrary to sections 2 and 3 of the Computer Misuse Act 1990 were extradition crimes, to look at schedule 1 to the Act 1989 and the relevant Order in Council, i.e. the United States of America (Extradition) Order 1976, which gave effect to the 1972 bilateral Extradition Treaty. Article 3(1) of the Treaty provided:

Extradition shall be granted for an act or omission the facts of which disclose an offence within any of the descriptions listed in the schedule annexed to this Treaty . . . or any

The schedule did not contain any express reference to of-

fences contrary to the Computer Misuse Act 1990, but there was an amendment in section 15 of the 1990 Act which extended the Order to include any offences under sections 2 or 3 or any conspiracies to commit such offences. Although the 1990 Act could not amend the 1972 Treaty, it made use of the Treaty's reference to "any other offence" to extend the provisions of the Order.

The magistrate had, however, correctly concluded that, since Joan Ojomo was entitled to control access to data of the kind in question, notwithstanding the fact that she had misused the information she had obtained, her access to it was not "unauthorised access" as defined by section 17(5) of the 1990 Act, and the applicant

could not be guilty of the first two offences. Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

Chancellor seeks to tackle Britain's productivity gap

By Michael Harrison

THE CHANCELLOR of the Exchequer yesterday hinted that his next Budget could include fresh incentives to encourage more investment by industry after a damning report showing that British productivity lags that of the US by 40 per cent.

Launching an initiative to tackle the productivity gap at a Downing Street seminar, Gordon Brown indicated that incentives for capital investment, skills development programmes and increased support for entrepreneurs were all on the agenda.

and industry officials later said that a range of measures to build on the corporate tax reforms set out in the last Budget were under examination.

The initiative follows a report to the Government from the US management consultants McKinsey showing that as well as lagging far behind American productivity standards. Britain was also at least 20 per cent behind Germany.

The report identifies Britain's inferior level of capital investment as one of the causes of its poor record on labour pro-

Treasury and Department of Trade ductivity against competitor nations, in- in Germany and France and affected few John Browne, chief executive of BP, Sir cluding even the French, where industry is saddled with high social costs of employment.

Mr Brown and his officials strongly contested suggestions that introducing a national minimum wage would hamper the drive to improve competitiveness, pointing out that the US had had a minimum wage for many years.

But one of the authors of the report, Bill Lewis of the McKinsey Global Institute, pointed out that the US minimum wage was set at about half the level of those

employers because wages had risen so

The McKinsey analysis shows that in some sectors, such as the car industry, the UK's labour productivity is half that of the Japanese and 20 per cent below the US. In the service sector, the productivity of the UK's hotel industry is half that of the US while in telecoms the gap is 45 per cent.

The seminar was attended by 20 leading UK businessmen, including Lord Simpson, managing director of GEC,

Ian Prosser, chairman of Bass, and Terry Leahy, chief executive of Tesco. Mr Brown told them that to achieve the higher pro-. ductivity on which growth, employment and living standards depended would re-

quire "a new national economic pur-Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, who co-hosted the seminar, said that the McKinsey study echoed

the findings of her own competitiveness

unit and pledged that the Government

would have a role to play in encouraging

investment and training and improving competition policy.

A series of 10 further seminars will take place around the country this year, covering sectors such as manufacturing, food retailing and software, while the Government intends to publish a competitiveness White

Paper in the autumn. According to McKinsey, the labour productivity gap with France and Germany is partly explained by the fact that these two countries have fewer people in employment working fewer hours.

Outlook, page 25

Gates prepares to back off

Klein and **Microsoft** in 11th hour peace talks

By David Usborne In New York

MICROSOFT, the American computer giant headed by the multi-billionaire Bill Gates, scrambled yesterday to fend off a potentially crippling antitrust action against it by the United States government, by engaging in dramatic 11thhour negotiations in Washington for a possible out-of-court settlement.

News of the talks surfaced just one hour before a scheduled press conference at which the Justice Department's fair competition tsar, Joel Klein, had been set to outline his action against Microsoft. The attorneys general of three US states who, with about 16 other states, have also been threatening to file suits against the company, had been expected to join Mr Klein.

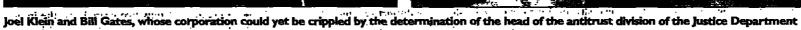
Microsoft, meanwhile, said it was delaying until Monday the first shipments of its new Windows 98 operating platform to personal computer manufacturers. It had planned

to release the software today. Sources said Microsoft had come forward with "major concessions". If they prove insufficient, however, Mr Klein and the attorneys general may yet forge ahead with the lawsuits that could be as far-reaching as the forcible break-up of the old AT&T in 1984 and Standard Oil in 1911.

1.1

The remarkable all-out assault on Microsoft, arguably the most revered but also the most feared of American enterprises, stems from a deepening conviction in US government that the company has abused its





near-monopoly position in the personal computer market illegally to trample its rivals and to deny consumers any realistic choices on how their ma-

chines function. The suits were said to include a call on the courts to block the shipment of Windows 98 unless Microsoft agreed to a series of restrictions on the software's contents and the agreements Microsoft had been expecting to reach with the manufacturers who will install it in new computers.

The precise scope of the action that now threatens Microsoft is not fully known. The extraordinary spectacle of Microsoft scrambling to settle suggested the conditions being presented to the company were far from minor. Lawyers for Mr

Gates were expected to continue the talks in Washington this morning.

At the extreme, the suits could demand the actual breakup of Microsoft into disparate companies. It could, for instance, be divided into two businesses, one making operating systems and the other delivering products for the Internet. Such draconian medicine has only been successfully administered twice before - in the cases of Standard Oil and AT&T An attempt in the early Eighties to dismantle IBM failed.

At a minimum, both Mr Klein and the 19-odd states are thought to be demanding that Microsoft strip from Windows 98 any automatic function giving users access to the World Wide Web via Microsoft's own

browser, the Internet Explorer. The so-called "bundling" of the browser into Windows has been at the heart of the Justice Department's tug-of-war with Microsoft, which dates back to the launch of Windows 95.

Among the perceived victims of Microsoft's virtual hege-Netscape is Communications, which pioneered the browser device with its Netscape Navigator. Netscape's once-mighty share of the browser market has slumped since Microsoft integrated the Explorer into Win-

But Mr Klein is thought also to be targeting the licensing agreements granted by Microsoft to the myriad PC manufacturers. He may, for example, be seeking an end to a condition that the Windows menu, which instantly offers such functions as the Explorer, must be the first thing that appears on the screen when their PC's are powered up by users.

If those agreements are loosened companies such as Compaq or Dell could customise their products to display alternative start-up menus offering functions produced by other software makers, such as the Netscape Navigator.

At the core of the Justice Department's action is the fear that with the Internet Explorer, Microsoft will for ever be able to control the gateway to a new and potentially monolithic business in all kinds of online transacting. Already, consumers are beginning to use the Internet to buy books,

cars, holidays and make stock its older trust-busting ways? investments. The scope is only just beginning to be understood.

There remains some doubt as to whether the Justice Department has the legal case to win any wide-ranging action against Microsoft in the courts. It would have to prove not just that Microsoft has achieved a near-monopoly but that it has been acting illegally to protect and expand it. Until yesterday, Microsoft had been defiant, arguing that the government had no right to force it to rip anything from its platform. Microsoft indicated, however, that it was still hoping to get the new software into shops as it has previously planned by 25 June.

Leader, page 20 Outlook, page 25

First blood to the US trust-buster

By Andrew Marshall in Washington

IF YOU want to believe the rhetoric, Joel Klein is all that stands between America and a vast wave of mega-mergers that will turn the country into one big corporation. As head of the antitrust division of the US Department of Justice, Mr Klein spearheads the nation's competition policy. He is the guiding intelligence behind the campaign to loosen Microsoft's hold

on the Internet browser market. The Microsoft case itself is important enough. But America is currently convulsed by a wave of huge corporate tie-ups, prompting the White House to set up a special team to investigate and appraise the trend. The case against Bill Gates seems to be not just a blow for change in the booming computer software market, but perlation, is America returning to

Rhetoric is certainly not Mr Klein's speciality. He is regarded within the legal business as one of the sharpest minds around, but few see him as a crusader. He is described by those who know him as a pragmatist, and though he has known Bill Clinton for many years, few see him in party terms.

Born and raised in the Broux, Mr Klein, 51, is a product of the élite Harvard Law School. After working as a clerk in the Supreme Court a highly sought post for young lawyers - he founded his own law firm, before fate brought him to the White House. The suicide of Deputy White House counsel Vince Foster in 1993 took him straight into the legal maelstrom that surrounds President Clinton, advising the First Couple on the Whitewater affair as well as coaching Ruth Bader Ginsburg for her Supreme Court confirmation hearing.

Some are critical, seeing him as a publicity-seeker. "If you want to understand him. don't look at him in ideological terms," says one Washington lawyer. "Look in pure ego terms." Some fellow lawyers see him as a highly political player, who is not unaware of the gains to his department and his career from the Microsoft case. It is fair to say, though, that ego is hardly a rare commodity in Washington; and no one questions Klein's assiduity and intelligence. "He is very analytical, very thoughtful, and very highly though of,"

another lawyer. When he was up for confir-

mation by the Senate last year, there was widespread suspicion that he was a man who would accommodate himself to big business. The Microsoft case has changed that impression. Suddenly, the campaign against monopoly seems to be on the march again.

Antitrust has played a vital role in shaping modern America, from the destruction of the trusts at the beginning of the century through to the attacks on IBM and AT&T that helped to define the modern telecommunications and computer industries. The anti-monopoly Sherman Act, under which Mr Klein is acting, was passed 105 years ago, part of a wave of populist reaction against the rapid industrialisation after the Civil War. But it was not until the arrival of Thurman Arnold. haps a straw in the wind for one of Mr Klein's most distinsomething much bigger. After i guished predecessors, in the decades of laissez-faire regu- 1940s, that it really took off. Acting with like-minded judges, Mr Arnold turned it into a powerful tool to break up monopolies, stop price-fixing and prevent agreements that were

in restraint of trade. But from the late 1970s, there was cooling-off. It was no longer fashionable to regard antitrust as a tool of social policy. Instead, more concern was paid to global competition, to the gains that might be realised through mergers and acquisitions, and to free markets.

But despite the latest burst of activism, there is little sign that either Mr Klein or the Justice Department are going back in time. They are trying to work out new approaches, lawyers say. "You're seeing a lot more use of empirical evidence, econometric modelling, and economic analysis," said one lawver. There is more of a focus on the possible efficiency gains from competition, and Mr Klein (whose first college degree was in economics) has embraced and advanced this.

The Justice Department is also trying to work out how to cope with triple challenges: a vast increase in the amount of merger and acquisition activity, an increase in cross-border activity which requires working with authorities in other countries and a surge in high-technology cases. Mr Klein has indicated his interest in updating laws that were designed for use in traditional industries such as steel and oil to the information age. Nothing could be more important in that context than the World-Wide Web, and the software to access it.

What they could do to Microsoft

Option 1:

Spin off Internet Explorer

The least radical option: Forcing Microsoft to spin off its internet Explorer web browser would halt the group's attempt to dominate the internet in the way it currently controls the market for Personal Computer software. It would counter the current allegation against Microsoft - that packaging Internet Explorer with its Windows operating system stifles competitors from other browser groups such as Netscape.

Microsoft's browser would then have to compete for customers rather than coming readily installed as part of every PC which is sold. However, such a course of action would leave the rest of the Microsoft empire Intact, leaving it free to find other ways to make the most of the internet.

Rather than strictly tacks the aresting of the province browsers, this pottern months against after the research application activates - such as Word, the word processing accidant and Page, the spreading - will the Windows operating system. Advocages argue that by being allowed to package Windows and its operating software together, Microsoft has had a head start over companies stating competing racinates,
such as Wead Pariect and Lotus. If the furthers turned leave's. The move weblief also quash the companies for the supply other software suppliers that Microsoft does not supply them whether they wanted to up this section.

The move weblief also quash the companies of the supply of the software suppliers that Microsoft does not supply them whether they wanted to up this section.

Force Microsoft to Accounting operating system

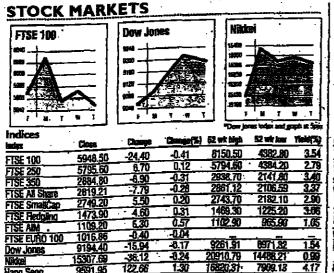
One of the most cardical epiness, which would turn

On costs Scheening system benefit from units. Microsoft Soperating system managraphymiany system for their open standard. His would not a Microsoft to make all the deals of its Windows and IVI operating systems available to its companions, allowing

them to copy it. As a result, PC users would no longer, be forced to use Microsoft's operating system if they with everyon

n many smaller pales. Advocates argues dominance of the PC soft essily extended into completely new Indes icial muscle is left intact. The company has invested in US cable operators, and was removed to have been considering a bid for British relegan, it has also been tinto the distral television particles the unit. the according to Web V. Meanwhile

Yesterday in the markets



INTEREST RATES UK 10 year gilt US long boad 0.56 5.92 -0.34 5.65

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

CURRENCIES 1.6416 2.7888 192.78 OTHER INDICATORS

TOURIST RATES

Australia (S)	2.5838	Mata (ik
Austria (schillings)	19.72	Mexican
Balgium (francs)	57.93	Netheria
Canada (\$)	2.2935	New Zea
Cypnis (pounds)	0.8225	Norway
Denmark (krone)	10.76	Portugal
Finland (marida)	8.5979	Saudi Ar
France (francs)	9.4172	Singapo
Germany (marks)	2.8163	Spain (p
Greece (drachma)	484.82	South A
Hong Kong (S)	12.22	Sweden
ireland (punts)	1.1118	Switzert
indian (rupoes)	60,28	Thailand
Israel (shekets)	5.5390	Turkey (
italy (itra)	2778	USA (\$)
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Source: Thomas Cook

Banks ready to pull out of Indonesia

By Stephen Vines in Hong Kong and Lea Paterson in London

FOREIGN banks and broking companies yesterday began to shut down operations and pulling out staff from Indonesia as the rioting escalated.

ABN Amro has shut down its 600strong Indonesian operations, and Deutsche Bank has temporarily closed its two branches in the region. John Ellis, senior vice president at BankAmerica, said: "The panic buttons were hit this morning." The US bank has begun to evacuate staff from Indonesia

An ABN Amro spokesperson said evacuation was an option for the Dutch bank, one of the largest foreign banks in the region. "We will do whatever we feel is necessary to protect our staff," he said. The bank was monitoring developments "minute-byminute'

Staff were reportedly sent home early from both Merrill Lynch and Bangkok Bank. HSBC, Standard Chartered and ING Barings said they hoped to open for business today, but were keeping the situation under review.

A spokesman for one of the foreign banks said: "I understand staff were watching cars burning from the bank's window." Another said: "We've advised our staff not to travel and some have started moving their families out of the country."

The banks said their primary concern was for the safety of their staff, Most were unwilling to discuss their contingency plans, saying that could endanger their employees.

Both BankAmerica and Standard Chartered are understood to have around 500 staff in the region. ING Barings has about 160. Other foreign companies are be-

lieved to be preparing evacuation Meanwhile, the financial markets

virtually ground to a halt vesterday but not before the local currency suffered

yet another 10 per cent sell-off, resulting in its value falling by 25 per cent since the latest round of trouble began on Tuesday.

Many local broking houses closed for business, followed by banks and other financial institutions. Some brokers stopped taking orders because of fears that they would never be settled.

A spokesman for Credit Lyonnais Securities said the situation was being reviewed on an "hour-by-hour" hasis. Ethnic Chinese, who have borne the brunt of the looting and burning, are disproportionately represented in the finance industry. For that reason many employees left to be with their families. Micael Lim, the treasurer at Standard Chartered Bank in Jakarta, was quoted as saying, "I can't find my wife. I am very depressed."

The house of Liem Sice Liong, Indonesia's most prominent Chinese businessman, was looted and burned yesterday. Mr Liem controls the Salim group and has a 40 per cent share in the regional conglomerate First Pa-

Meanwhile shares in companies such as the Humpass group and Biamantara Citra, controlled by members of President Suharto's family, saw their prices plunge by as much as 25 per cent.

The Jakarta Post reported Tanri Abeng, the state enterprise minister, as saying that foreign buyers have withdrawn from two privatisation projects in light of the current situation. That cast doubt on 12 other projects high on the list of requirements laid down by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in return for Indonesia's \$43bn (£24bn) bailout.

Earlier in the week Indonesia indicated that even that amount was insufficient. Ginandjar Kartasasmita, the economic co-ordinating minister, said: "We'll definitely need more." Negotiations with creditors over the nation's \$80bn private sector foreign debt are



A car blazes outside a bank in Jakarta yesterday, where the financial centre has been disrupted

still under way but making little progress. A meeting in Frankfurt on 26 May will see if further repayment extensions can be agreed.

Although the troubles in Indonesia sent shares prices down in other parts of the region earlier in the week, there was little response yes-

terday although the Singapore market, which has the closest connections with Indonesia, fell by 2.3 per cent.

Nevertheless the situation in Indonesia is adding to a general gloom which refuses to lift from Asian markets. "Most of the markets are going to revisit the low points of February and January," said Hong Kong based Peter Churchouse of Morgan Stanley, which is advising clients to be "underweight in equities right now".

Russell Jones, of Lehman Brothers in Hong Kong, said: "It's a very negative environment. The momentum is likely to remain downward for some time."

Seagram in talks on stake in PolyGram

SEAGRAM, the Canadian drinks and entertainment giant, confinned yesterday it was in talks with Philips Electronics over a possible acquisition of Philips' stake in PolyGram, the world's leading music company. Discussions are continuing and the parties are now inviting PolyGram to participate in the discussions, Seagram said. In a brief statement, Seagram said no assurance could be provided that an agreement could be reached. Philips issued a similar statement earlier. Philips owns 75 per cent of PolyGram.

Fund glory for Soros

SOROS Fund Management is the top emerging market equity fund manager for the last five years, Micropal Emerging Market Fund Manager said. Soros Fund Management had gained 184.26 per cent, the best five-year weighted composite return in the global emerging markets stocks sector. Soros Fund Management was trailed by Paris-based FP Consult, up 139.81 per cent, and London's Ermitage Management, with a 127.64 per cent rise.

Big rise in BAA traffic

PASSENGER traffic at the seven airports run by BAA, the airport operator, rose 9.8 per cent in April from a year earlier. Shorthaul European charter traffic rose 21.9 per cent and North Atlantic services 11.3 per cent. BAA handled 8.8 million passengers at its airports in April, with London's Heathrow registering its largest monthly rise for more than two years of 7.3 per cent.

Warning hits Ilion shares

SHARES in the information technology company Ilion Group slumped by 76p, or 40 per cent, to 118.5p after it issued a profit warning. Following difficult trading conditions in the UK during the first four months of 1998, it does not expect to meet market profit expectations for 1998," it said. The company said its trade in March has been in line with budget but after that it has been 'exceptionally disappointing" in the UK.

Bluebird Toys offer raised

GUINNESS PEAT Group yesterday raised its offer for Bluebird Toys to 116p a share, valuing the company at £48.2m. GPG, the investment company chaired by New Zealander Ron Brierley, had said in March it was considering its position over Bluebird after US toy company Mattel trumped its bid with an agreed 111p per share offer. Mattel's offer valued Bluebird at £46m and compares with GPG's original 101p hostile bid.

Storms cost insurers £7m

INDEPENDENT Insurance Group said yesterday that storms in January and the floods during Easter would result in an overall estimated net loss of £7m. It said several areas of its operation had produced a significant increase level of new business and its commercial accounts continued to perform well. The market welcomed the overall trading update, marking Independent Insurance's shares up 60p at 1775p.

Sales up 8.5% at WM stores

WILLIAM Morrison Supermarkets said trading was "entirely satisfactory" with sales 8.52 per cent higher than last year, including a like-for-like contribution of 3.3 per cent. Ken Morrison, chairman, said the chain has "once again seen record sales and profit growth" and has extended its development programme with plans to open seven superstores during 1999, creating up to 2,400 jobs.

£7m take-off for First link opens in Warm winter knocks

By Michael Harrison

A FORMER amateur footballer who helped launch an airline with an aircraft borrowed from a German musuem will be £7m richer when the business floats on the stock market next month.

Terry Liddiard, who played centre-half for Headington United FC (the forerunner of Oxford United) in the old Southern League, will have a stake of around 7 per cent in British Regional Airlines, which is expected to be valued at £100m.

Mr Liddiard, chief executive, and 1,450 staff at British Regional Airlines will own about 10 per cent of the business in total. The current owner of the group, the British Midland chairman Sir Michael Bishop, is reducing his holding from 90 per cent to just under 30 per cent through an institutional placing.

The flotation will raise about £25m of new money.

enabling British Regional Airlines to expand its operations rapidly with a fleet of Embraer

The group operates 86 routes under the Manx Airlines brand and as a franchisee of British Airways, and carried 2.5 million passengers last year. Mr Liddiard joined Manx as a founder director in 1982 when the airline was relaunched with just three aircraft, including a Vickers Viscount and a turboprop Fokker F27 on loan from a German mu-

It is already BA's biggest franchisee and the flotation is expected to see a further strengthening of its links with BA with British Regional Airlines taking over more BA services from Manchester and Southampton.

The group made pre-tax profits of £3.8m on sales of £165m last year but analysts are pencilling in profits of more than £5m for the current

former footballer telecoms network £92m off BG profits

By Peter Thal Larsen

THE FIGHT for dominance in the European telecom market intensified as Esprit Telecom, the Reading-based operator. opened a new high-speed link between Paris and London.

The link, which is the first part of a network which will Esprit hopes eventually stretch across most of Europe, demonstrates the growing demand for cross-border telecom ser-

Graham Halis, Esprit's UK managing director, pointed out that business telecom users are increasingly demanding telecom networks which link seamlessly across national borders. However, national operators such as British Telecom find it hard to offer these services.

"Previously if I wanted to buy a telephone circuit I'd have to buy half a circuit from BT and got to France Telecom to provide the other half," he said, adding that Esprit's strategy was to consider Europe as single market

Esprit now plans to build other loops stretching through Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Germany and Spain. They should be ready for launch next year.

> The London-Paris link employs the latest "self-healing" fibre-optic technology. This allows Esprit to offer a range of services including high-speed data transmission and video conferencing at substantially cheaper rates than are cur-

rently on offer. Some analysts expressed concern that Esprit had not actually laid its own cable. Instead, the company pieced the link together by buying bits of cable from other operators such as Racal Telecom and the French motorway operator. It then uses advanced computer sys-

tems to operate the network. However, Esprit insists that building its own network would have delayed the group's entry into the market, giving other

operators a chance to jump in. 'If we had laid our own cable it would have added taken 18 months longer to get it ready," said Jim Reynolds, chief oper-

ating officer. Esprit's move demonstrates the opportunities in continental Europe for fast-moving telecom operators. Yesterday Colt Telecom, the US-funded group which is building local networks in major European cities, reported a 34 per cent increase in first-quarter revenues.

Colt, which already has a local network in the City of London, plans to build high-speed fibre-optic "rings" in 12 European business centres. It is in talks to buy a network in Amsterdam from Telecom Noord West, a subsidiary of a local electricity company, for £41m. Shares in Colt yesterday

surged 257.5p to 1940p as Morgan Stanley, the stockbroker, issued an upbeat recommendation. In the past year, the shares have soared from less than 300p.

THE unseasonably warm weather in the first quarter melted a £92m hole in profits at the gas pipeline operator BG as customers switched off the central heating in response to rising temperatures.

BG, which was split off from the British Gas trading arm Centrica a year ago, said operating profits dipped by 6 per cent to £552m in the January-March period.

Transco, its pipeline arm, also felt the effects of the 13 per cent price cut imposed by the regulator Ofgas the previous autumn. This sliced £140m from profits but BG said the reduction was partially offset by a £45m fall in depreciation charges and £57m of cost savings.

Staff levels at Transco fell by 432 to 15,452 at the end of March. Overall Transco's operating profits fell by £62m

However, BG's exploration as BG's drive to cut production and production business made a strong contribution, posting a 57 per cent increase in oper-

duction volumes. Despite a near 20 per cent fall in oil and gas prices on the previous year, operating profit per barrel was up by 6 per cent

ating profits to £63m on the

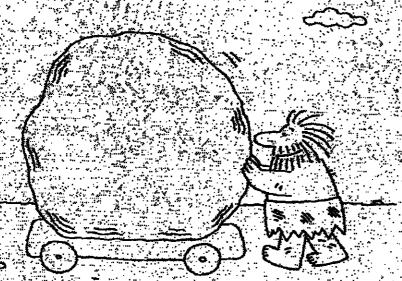
back of a 48 per cent rise in pro-

ja

costs began to pay dividends. The warm weather in February, when temperatures rose into the mid 60s Fahrenheit. took its toll on domestic gas consumption. But the actual volume of gas transported during the quarter was the same as 1997 because of the increased demand from large industrial users.

COMPANY RESULTS

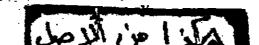
_ _	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Alaşces Poter (I)	51.7m (46.6m)	4.208m (4.796m)	6.2p (7.0p)	2.2p (2.0p)
Abris (I)	94.4m (31.2m)	9.886m (3.083m)		1.5p (1.25p)
"Basik of Ireland (F)	附 - (-)	530.4m (395.6m)	70.9p (52.9p)	
6G (Q)	21.3m (18.3m)	524.0m (514.0m)		23.0p (17.75p
Bristoi & West (F)	- (-)	91.2m (6.7m)	- (-)	1RI
Car Group (1)	138.0m (68.0m)	3.305m (2.097m)		 _
A de Greeky (F)	56.4m (48.9m)	3.21m (3.31m)		1.72p (1.58p)
Jersey Bestricity (i)	- (-)	3.862m (2.988m)	17.05p (17.80p	
Maar & Overseas (1)	5.7m (4.8m)	0.234m (0.103m)		23.0p (18.0p)
Oradramatic (1)	38.5m (36.0m)	6.4m (6.7m)	0.33p (0.11p)	<u> 16</u>
Scotlish Radio Hidge (1)	21.3m (16.3m)		8.80 (9.20)	4.5p (4.1p)
Shuitesbury (1)	- (·)	5.758m (4.491m)	14.2 (10.8p)	3.60 (3.0p)
Teackinsons (1)	14.9m (13.7m)	3.316m (2.787)	3. tp (3.3p)	0.85p (0.75p)
		0.962m (0.860m)	10.3p (8.9p)	3.5p (3.5p)
*Pretax Profit and EPS An	On Second	S is pre-exceptional	s "Dividend to b	0 paki 25 2 PD
	- Lia-cycholds			



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OUTLOOK

ON THE DANGERS FACING BILL GATES. **IMPROVING** BRITAIN'S COMPETITIVENESS. AND THE MORE TAKEOVER BATTLE

Trustbusters pose biggest test yet for Microsoft HIGH DRAMA as Bill Gates and his lenovation and competition, and raise prices. in competitiveness with the US, Nor should and General Motors to raise their game In today's software industry, the reverse is

gal team flew to Washington DC in an attempt to head off with concessions what was being billed as the biggest trust busting case in the US since the breakup of AT & T. Is it too late for that now, or can Mr Gates still hope to wriggle out of the US Justice Department's clutches?

Whatever the answer. Mr Gates must he acutely aware of the dangers of taking on US regulators. IBM was tied up for 19 years in an antitrust suit that came close to destroying the company. Rather than concentrating on the marketplace, IBM was instead forced to waste huge amounts of money on legal fees and the case became an all consuming passion for management. In the end, the Justice department admitted it had no case but it was by then a pyrric victory. In the meantime Apple and others had crept up behind and stolen its future.

Bill Gates, head and founder of Microsoft, has earnt and deserves much of the wealth, praise and admiration heaped on him by the success of his company. But like all monopolists, he has been arrogant and carcless with his future in resisting the very real concerns of the market and his would be competitors. It is often said that the Microsoft monopoly is somehow different from all monopolies that have gone before, that it was created by the market and that there is therefore no law capable of or justified in attacking it.

And certainly in some respects the computer operating system on which it is based doesn't behave like traditional monopolies. Normally monopolists use their dominant position to restict output, stifle inoccurring. Output is rising, prices are falling, and new entrants are continually entering the market place. Given this benign backdrop, how can the US government turn on its most successful company?

Well, this is a new industry, isn't it, but don't believe it has entirely changed the usual rules of commerce. What Mr Gates and his company does is not so very different from what the old robber barons of the oil, rail and telephone and steel industries used to do. The initial monopoly of the operating system may have been created by the market but it has since been ruthlessly exploited to stifle and inhibit those forced to pass through its gateway. By behaving like this, Microsoft has laid itself open to a terrible fate perhaps not dissimilar to that which befell IBM.

The flip side of high productivity

THER IS one very simple way for the Government to bridge Britain's productivity gap with the rest of the advanced industrialised world. Introduce a national minimum wage that throws millions out of work, get the same level of output from fewer people and watch the rise in productivity go clean off the scale.

This, of course, was not the kind of discussion that Gordon Brown encouraged over croissants and coffee with the bevy of businessmen hauled into Downing Street yesterday morning to hear his plans for closine our yawning and rather alarming gap it have been. The Germans and French have discovered that the flip side of higher productivity based on fewer people working fewer hours tends to be longer dole queues and higher social employment costs.

This makes it a nil-sum game quite apart from demonstrating how dangerous it is to diagnose a country's economic ills

solely on indices of output per capita.

The clever chaps from McKinsey, hired to provide some intellectual backbone to the Chancellor's campaign, tell us that French food retailers are 25 per cent more productive than Tesco. What they are really telling us is that the French spend more on food in bigger outlets which proves precisely nothing.

Fortunately there is more to McKinsey's analysis than that. Their report also demonstrates the ineluctable link between low levels of capital investment and low labour productivity. This cannot be explained away by structural differences between the UK and other economies. Given the same tax regime, labour force, supply base and customers, Japanese transplant factories in the US and UK achieve productivity levels on a par with those back home and way above what indigenous manufacturers can achieve.

That, in turn, begs the question of the best way to bridge the productivity gap. The glib solution is to reach for fiscal incentives and support programmes to encourage

more investment and raise the skills base. But the lesson from the Japanese car transplants is that improved productivity comes from the spur of greater competition. Nissan and Toyota have forced Ford

in their home markets. Mr Brown would do well to bear that in mind should he be tempted to stymy competition in particular markets, starting with energy.

French farce at Decaux

IT WAS surely Roger Parry disguised as Jean-Claude Decaux who flew a party of journalists to Decaux's headquarters just outside Paris on Wednesday. Unfortunately, the pretence wasn't as effective as it should have been, for once there, the chief executive of More Group gave himself away by camping up his performance of the French outdoor advertising tycoon to an absurd degree.

Come off it Mr Parry, we're not that gullible you know. M. Decaux would never have said those things. You surely didn't expect us to fall for it did you? Certainly he looked the part, with all that gallic waving of the arms, but he gave himself away in what he said.

Mr Parry's bravura performance on the lawn outside Decaux's Plaisir headquarters needs some explaining. Decaux is one of France's leading outdoor advertising companies and it is bidding for its British rival More Group. Mr Party, who heads More Group, doesn't much like the idea of being taken over by his arch French rival and he's trying to get the takeover referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, only he's not allowed to say that because he's already recommended a lower offer from Clear Channel of the

dive after

warning

profit

By Lea Paterson

US. Shareholders would get awfully angry if they thought their chief executive was trying to deprive them of a higher offer.

It was thus that a dastardly plan came to be hatched. Mr Parry would get the French to admir publicly that their bid was fundamentally anti-competitive and monopolistic in intention and the Office of Fair Trading would thus be persuaded to refer it. But nobody believed he would go this far. On his way to meet the journalists, M. Decaux was kidnapped and Mr Parry put in his place. Once properly disguised, Mr Parry set to work. It didn't matter if there was less competition in Europe as a result of this bid, he told incredulous hacks. The main thing is to keep the Americans out, because otherwise they'll make things very difficult in the market place for European companies like Decaux.

The real giveaway, however, came when he claimed that a monopoly could be positive for smaller cities and that the problem with politicians was that they were not far sighted enough to realise this. This was surely taking the joke too far. But there was worse. He then went on to say that Decaux could afford to pay so much for More Group because it was "answerable to no one". If that hasn't persuaded the Office of Fair Trading, which yesterday passed its advice on the matter to Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, nothing will. Unless a very narrow definition of what constitutes a competitive market is adopted by officials at the OFT, it still looks, on balance, as if Decaux will escape reference. Mr Parry ought to be congratulated, nonetheless, on a splendid last ditch attempt to change everyone's mind.

WHC share sale under investigation

By Andrew Yates

THE Stock Exchange is understood to be investigating share dealings by Philip Easterman, the finance director of (WHC) who quit today.

home group tumbled 66.5p to 339p yesterday after it warned profits would fall well below City expectations. The profit warning wiped £44m off the valof WHC. The announcement comes just weeks after Mr Easterman raised £79,200 by selling 20.000 shares at 396p each. He made an extra £11,400 from the sale compared with the price he would have got if the sold the shares after the profit warning. According to sources close to the company, he sold shares without obtain-

Mr Easterman has resigned from the group with immediate effect. He is to receive a pay off of £100,000, equivalent to a

WHC has unveiled a catalogue of problems which will dent current year profits. Mr Easterman is understood to be at fault for delaying informing the board of the full extent of the problems.

"He could have told the board sooner." said one industry source.

He is being replaced by

RONSON, the troubled ciga-

rette lighter maker which

boasts Victor Kiam as its chair-

man, saw its flame grow weak-

er vesterday when it warned of

escalating losses caused by in-

creased re-organisation costs

and stock provisions. The com-

By Peter Thal Larsen

partner at KPMG, the charlered accountants

WHC said profits for the six months to May would fall below the £8.4m the group made in the first half of its financial Westminster Health Care year, Its main problem has been the performance of two Shares in the retirement secure homes designed to house mentally ill patients. The number of patients at these units in Newbury and Milton Keynes has fallen well below ex-

> The group has also had teething problems at Libra, the psychiatric business it purchased last autumn. City observers believe that Mr Easterman would have been in a position to be aware of these impending problems. Pat Carter, chief executive of WHC, confirmed that the decision to part with Mr Easterman was taken in the last few weeks.

ing authorisation from senior Mr Carter said: "Some months ago we decided we needed to upgrade the job (of finance director). The recent events confirmed we were right to do so."

The company is believed to have informed the Stock Exchange of Mr Easterman's share dealings. Another industry source said: "Mr Easterman has been made to look like a blithering idiot. The company is hopping mad that it failed to recognise a problem which happened it their own back-

watches and ear-rings for the Rouson Duty Free subsidiary

which sells gifts though airlines

like BA. The stock includes

8,000 Montine watches against

forecast sales of 800 this year

and have never previously been

accounted for.



Jean Claude Decaux (left), chairman, and his son Jean Francois, at their Paris factory. If Decaux's bid for More is cleared it would control over 90 per cent of the UK market

German bidder joins the battle for More

By Nigel Cope Associate City Editor

A FOURTH player has been drawn into the increasingly acrimonious bid battle for More Group, the outdoor advertising company, as the saga moves into its final stages.

It emerged yesterday that Wall, a German supplier of street furniture, has written to local authorities in London in an attempt to exploit the confusion over More Group's position.

Decaux, the French group, is awaiting clearance from the competition authorities for its £475m cash offer for More. Margaret Beckett, the Trade and Industry Secretary, is due

would now be in the region of

£11.5m compared with previous

estimates of around £7m. The

shares lost a further 18 per cent

of their value to close 1.75p low-

er at 5.75p. They stood at

Victor Kiam was in London

65.75p three years ago.

Duty-free worries as Ronson's flame dims

pany has huge stockpiles of for the year to December 1997

The company said losses yesterday for the board meet-

to rule on the offer next week. If successful, the bid, which trumped an earlier £425m offer by Clear Channel Communications, the US giant, would give Decaux more than 90 per cent of the UK market for street furniture such as bus shelters, street

toilets and wastepaper baskets. However, Clear Channel denied a suggestion it had lined up Wall as an alternative target if it loses the fight with Decaux.

Mark Mays, Clear Channel's president, said: "We have talked to everybody, but we have made no overtures about buying their businesses." Nobody at Wall could be reached for comment. Wall's letter, which is signed

ing. It is understood that he is

still supportive of the company.

pany's broker, is helping

in relation to the progress of the

fund raising will be made along

with the preliminary an-

nouncement in the near fu-

arrange a £6m re-financing.

Charles Stanley, the com-

"A detailed announcement

by Hans Wall, the company's founder, and dated 28 April, was explains out the company's product range. It sings the praises of Wall's City Toilet, which it claims has "broadened the prospects of disabled persons for easier access to, and participation in, public life".

The letter continues: "All other Wall products might also help London to better meet the needs of its citizens." It concludes by offering to set up a

demonstration in London. Meanwhile, Decaux yesterday confirmed it had bired GJW, the lobbying firm, to argue its cause in Westminster. Outlook, this page

ture," the company said.

second in four months.

scribe to the rights issue being

organised by 17 per cent share-

holder Albion consortium fund.

the shortfall in the UK. Yesterday's warning is the In March Victor Kiam, acquired 10 per cent of Ronson and became part-time chairman. He is expected to sub-

Ilion shares | Warning of new pensions disaster

SHARES in the information out wholesale reform. technology company Ilion

Group slumped by 76p, or 40 per cent, to 118.5p after it issued a profit warning yesterday. In a statement to the City, Ilion said: "Following difficult trading conditions in the UK during the first four months of | tirement savings. 1998, it does not expect to

tions for 1998." The company said its trade in March had been in line with budget but after that it had been "exceptionally disappointing" in the UK. "UK sales in the first four months have only grown by 22 per cent, considerably below

meet market profit expecta-

budget," it said. Gross margins in the UK had improved from their low point in the fourth quarter of 1997 and were in line with budget, Ilion said. "The board expects to achieve substantial profits, but it is too early in the year to be precise. The consensus market forecast for pre-tax profit was £8m."

Ilion's cost base is predominantly fixed in the short term and the shortfall in sales has translated into a significant decrease in profits relative to budget, the company said.

In its results statement in March, llion said it was now operating in a less predictable environment and that markets outside of France had started slowly in 1998.

"That volatility has continued," it said. In France the sales growth this year has been around 70 per cent with a consequent greater contribution to group profits but it was insufficient to compensate for

Wayne Channon, Ilion Group chairman, said: "I am confident in the strategy of retaining our market leadership in the UK and we will ensure that the required actions are taken to protect this position, albeit at the expense of shortterm profitability.

By Andrew Verity

THE Government was yesterday warned it would trigger a fresh pensions mis-selling disaster if it brought in a new vehicle with-

In a centre-piece of its plans for welfare reform, the Government is pledged to introduce "stakeholder pensions", a new tax-exempt pension plan aimed at bringing pensions to 8 million people who have no re-

But leading actuaries Bacon & Woodrow said stakeholder pensions would open the way for a repeat of the £12bn misselling scandal unless they were accompanied by fundamental reforms.

Speaking at the annual conference of the National Association of Pension Funds, Andrew Warwick-Thompson, B&W pensions expert. said: We would implore [the Government], please don't introduce another pension regime on top of those we already have. If you push stakeholder pensions into the market as it stands at the moment there will

be mis-selling." The actuaries fear the Gov-

ernment's reforms will simply introduce another pension regime alongside the already complex rules for retirement saving, echoing the introduction of personal pensions in 1998.

This would open the way for unscrupulous salespeople to switch unwary savers into inferior schemes, just as they did in the case of personal pensions.

Pension funds have become concerned that stakeholder pensions will have to offer low charges and good value if they are to appeal to low-income savers. This would prompt savers to shift into stakeholder pensions and away from employer-sponsored schemes.

Pension funds, which control over £600bn and own over a third of equity on the stock market, already feel battered by Government reforms which have taken more than £5bn a year from their

investment income. The July Budget decision to axe the tax credit on dividends has prompted many funds to sell equities, which no longer offer such clear tax advantages, and buy Government gilts. Fund managers predict pension funds will increasingly shift into corporate debt.



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High-priced trades stir up interest in Ladbroke

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

LADBROKE, the betting then ruling price created the putting volume at 17.7 million.

The stock market has wait-Hilton Hotel Corporation to build a share stake.

Hilton hotels spread with statement although sentiment Ladbroke controlling the had earlier been dented by the portfolio in the rest of the referral to the Monopolies world. As part of an alliance established between HHC the acquisition of the Coral and Ladbroke the Americans betting shops chain. promised to build a 5 per cent interest in the British group.

The Americans were expected to rely on the issue of new shares. But the latest shenanigans could indicate they have decided to buy the Coral business would sugthrough the stock market.

The two trades, thought to involve Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, were for 1 million and 4.25 million shares. They were completed at 340p when the price was nearer 325p.

The consequent interest sia, and a resurrection of Belgium now has 26.2 per that women's wear sales reand hotel group, enlivened a was enough to make Laddull day, galloping 17.5p to broke the most actively 342p. Two trades above the traded blue chip, with Seaq

The leisure group is, however, still below its 358p peak ed for more than a year for hit earlier this year. A year ago the shares were 240p.

This week Ladbroke pro-HHC operates the US duced a confident trading and Mergers Commission of

Takeover rumours have occasionally wafted around the company. At one time Bass, the brewing and hotel group, was regarded as a possible predator. But its sale of gest it is no longer interest-

Footsie ended 24.4 points off at 5,948.5; just 30 minutes before the close the fall was 54.6. The worsening situation cent take-up and long time

higher interest rate fears tor- cent. mented the market. An un-

new highs Oil exploration shares flared on positive comments from Morgan Stanley and hopes of upbeat drilling reports in the next few weeks.

restraints and moved to yet

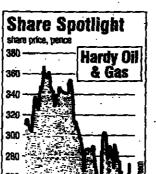
Morgan's Nick Antill highlighted the possibility of more consolidation and is thought to have suggested a 650p price for Enterprise Oil; 320p for Lasmo; 330p for Hardy Oil & Gas and 70p for Monnument Oil & Gas.

His projections lifted Enterprise 22p to 597p; Lasmo 9.25p to 291p; Hardy 15.5p to 273.5p and Monument 1.75p to 63.5p.

Monument said its rights issue had achieved a 95.4 per in Asia, particularly Indone-shareholder Electrafina of

Colt Telecom was another even New York display was to collect a Morgan boost. The another inhibiting influence. shares jumped 257.5p to a Still, the two main supporting 1,940p peak after Morgan set indices blissfully ignored such a 2,250p target price target.

Next, the fashion chain rocked by a profits warning in March, fell 7p to 499.5p with finance director David Keens said to be alerting analysts



stocking problems had yet to any takeover approach, be overcome.

ened 17p to 897p as Merrili Lynch repeated its 1,000p target, and Hillsdown Holdings added 5.5p to 186.5p on takeover talk.

Suggestions of a deal between Powell Duffryn, off 10p at 600p, and Mersey Docks, down 6.5p at 602.5p, appeared to be wide of the mark.

Matalan, the retailer, made a strong debut, closing at 275.5p from a 235p placing. Arten, the electrical equip-

ment group, gained 4p to 34.25p after duly confirming it planned a number of disposals; Trust Motor advanced 3p to 181p as another bid approach was received. The company has had unsuccessful negotiations over a sale to its management. On Tuesday Nicholas Barr, who led the abortive buyout, quit.

Air London, the air charmained sluggish and over- ter broker which has denied climbed another 40p to 440p, Cadhury Schweppes hard a peak. The shares have nearly doubled since February.

The flame at Ronson, the lighter group, is just about flickering. It expects losses to hit £11.5m; the shares plunged 1.25p (after 2.75p) to

Computer shares had another strong session, gaining 2 per cent. Micro Focus, on figures, jumped 70p to 645p: Parity 36.5p to 821.5p and Admiral 25p to 1,107.5p. But MMT Computing dropped 20p to 1,287.5p after chairman Michael Tilbrook sold 500,000 shares at 1,275p. He is left with 4.7 per cent.

And a profits warnings hit Illion, off 76p at 112.5p.

Distributor Abacus Polar was another mauled by a profits warning, falling 29.5p to 96.5p. Ferguson International tumbled 11.5p to 93.5p in response to a profits slump.

Share Price Data

TAKING STOCK

WATCH Hadleigh, the engineer. There is talk of corporate activity. The shares rose 12p to 250p; they have risen from 193.5p this month. Last year profits hit £2.1m and a similar result seems likely for the year ended in March.

PROMINENT Information offering a newspaper monitoring and information service, claims the distinction of being the first Ofex company to have a rights issue fully underwritten. A £900,000 call has been backed by Hong Kong-based Cathay Pharchem Trading. The shares are 25.5p; dealings in the nil paid rights start next month.

STAKE building at Reece, the distributor? There is talk that a construction group is in the market picking up shares. An institutional sale of around 5 per cent was quickly absorbed. Reece shares firmed 0.25p to 2.25p, a 12 month high.

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THE INVESTMENT COLUMN EDITED BY ANDREW YATES

WHC can get over this glitch

WESTMINSTER Health Care has got itself into a pickle. To issue a profit warning is bad enough. But when your finance director sells a big chunk of shares just two weeks before it is announced to the Stock Exchange it raises a serious concerns about the management of the company.

If, as sources close to the company maintain, Philip Easterman acted on his own then he was at best misguided; at worst he faces further action by the Stock Exchange. The fact that he failed to inform the group's other executives about the profit progress of some of its subsidiaries suggests internal controls were found wanting.

In any case he had to go and if the company can salvage any credit from this situation is was by the way it organised a quick replacement. This unsavoury episode has undoubtedly tainted the reputation of WHC in the City. The profit warning came because it failed to attract the number of patients it forecast to its secure homes and suffered delays in opening new psychiatric units. But at least the end to these problems are in sight. Government cutbacks and intense competition has also hit revenues from its brain injury business.

In other words the string of problems have put WHC's plans back a year. But they have done little to affect the group's long-term potential.

The nursing home market has suffered from over-supply but occupancy levels are finally on the rise with demand rising sharply. Rising wage costs have kept margins in check but prospects are still encouraging.

Specialist health care analyst Laing & Buisson forecasts current-year profits of £16.5m, which should recover to £21m for the following 12 months putting the shares on a prospective p/e ratio of 15.

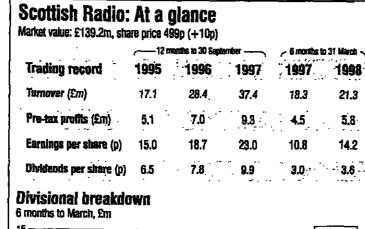
WHC's problems look like a glitch, albeit it a rather substantial one. It may take some time for the company to drag itself out of the sick ward but in the long term the shares do not look expensive.

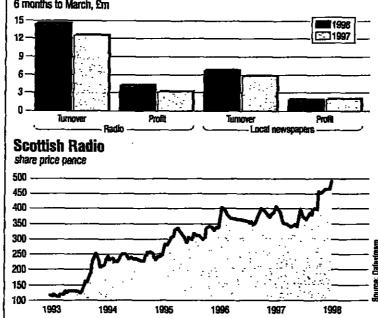
Scottish Radio sounds healthy

HOW LONG can the radio boom last?

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newspaper operations, where Scottish

Radio has recently been acquiring

than just a radio operator - its skills in

understanding and exploiting local

markets extend to other media. As a

result, it's no surprise that Richard

reluctant to say which ones he might

Radio now has a £5.6m cash pile with

problem is that Mr Findlay refuses to

stations are now changing hands. Com-

That said, Mr Findlay still thinks ad-

is also becoming more intense.

Strong cashflow means that Scottish

This shows that the company is more

and integrating new titles.

be eyeing up.

have enjoyed the best of all worlds. First, radio's share of the total advertising spend has grown from next to nothing to about 5 per cent as advertisers have switched away from more expensive media. Second, industry consolidation has yielded huge cost savings. Finally, general advertising spend-

ing has also been rising.

Clearly, this pace of growth cannot last. Commercial radio's share of listeners is unlikely to rise much further, so advertising growth is likely to slow. Room for further consolidation is limited.

Scottish Radio's profits are highly geared to advertising. Interim results, released yesterday, showed operating profits rising by a third to £6m on sales up 16 per cent to £21.3m. Of that, only a few percentage points was the result of acquisitions.

The encouraging factor, however, vertising growth will be in the "low In the past few years, commercial was that growth on the radio side was teens" this year, suggesting healthy radio operators and their shareholders matched by rising profits in its local profit growth. A bid from a larger media

the shares, up 10p to 499p yesterday. fully deserve their current rating.

group also remains a possibility. On a

forward earnings multiple of about 18

27/BUSINESS

Emu is the key for Bank of Ireland

WOULD-BE investors in the Bank of Ireland (BoI) should try and answer the \$64,000 question: will Economic and Monetary Union (Emu) be a success?

The healthy state of the Irish economy has been an important factor in Bol's recent success. A combination of low Irish inflation and strong growth rate helped the group make pre-tax profits of IR£530.4m (£461.2m) for the year to March, a jump of 34.1 per cent. The dividend rose by 30 per cent to IR23.0p a share.

Two weeks ago, Ireland was formally given the green light to join the first wave of Emu. The Bol, unsurprisingly, is upbeat about the introduction of the curo, stressing the enhanced opportunities for inward investment. But Irish interest rates are currently above most European rates. Given that a common rate must apply across all participating states from I January, Irish rates will have to come down. This could destabilise a hitherto healthy economy and

erode margins in the mortgage market, However, it is unfair to attribute the entirety of the Bol's profit growth to the healthy Irish economy - only around half of the bank's profits flow from the Irish Republic.

Bristol & West (B&W), the UK building society which became part of the Irish group in July, was another driver of profit growth. B&W brought in profits of IR£92.3m last year, and continues to thrive in a competitive UK mortgage market..

Maurice Keane, Bol's chief executive, is not averse to an acquisition or Findlay, chief executive, will not rule two - possibly another UK building out moves into other media, though he's society - and corporate activity of this type should give BoI's shares an added boost. The shares closed yesterday down 34p at 1258p in London and down IR40p at IR14.50p in Dublin after a bout of profit taking.

which to pursue acquisitions. The only Brokers' forecasts, upgraded slightly in the light of yesterday's figures, put pay the inflated prices for which radio the bank on a forward p/e of around 18, petition for deals in local newspapers pretty standard for this type of stock. At first glance, this makes BoI look good value, given the solid across-the-board growth in its businesses. But when you factor in the uncertainties that Emu will bring, the shares seem fairly priced.

PEOPLE & **BUSINESS**

CLIFFORD **GERMAN**



WHILE Ken Livingstone, Jeffrey Archer and half a dozen other potential candidates for the post of first ever Mayor of Greater London are still kicking their heels waiting for the election, the 670th Lord Mayor of London City, Alderman Richard Nichol, is off to Spain and Portugal this week-end for a fortnight of flag-waving on behalf of the City, emphasising its determination to remain the financial capital of Europe, whether or not we actually use the new European currency.

Next Tuesday the Lord Mayor meets the King Juan Carlos, his opposite number Alberto Ruiz, the president of the Madrid Regional Government, the economic secretary Cristobal Montoro and the president of the Madrid Stock exchange, Antonio Zoido, and opens a seminar where John Townend, the deputy director of market operations at the Bank of England, will speak on the theme "UK Government Policy: London Ready for the Euro. The following week it is off to Oporto for the opening of Expo 98, then on to Lisbon to address a seminar on one of his special interests, maritime law, entitled "The oceans: Law, security and Pollution."

THE AUTHENTIC sound of rolling stones will be heard in Hay's Galleria next month when 32 City companies are expected to compete for the 1998 Petanque Challenge sponsored by Cotes du Rhone wines. The winners will be awarded an inscribed trophy, and a day of strenuous activities including white-water rafting and rally driving as well as magnums and bottles of Cote du Rhone.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order for James Dubois, chairman of Gainsborough, an Ofex-listed company which provides shortterm serviced office accommodation complete with receptionists and all the paraphernalia of a modern electronic office for companies wishing to test the water in a new location without going to the expense of renting and equipping space on a long-term lease. Last week Gainsborough opened its first location in the City at 33 Throgmorton Street, opposite the Stock Exchange, and next week its first

client, Real World Education, will move in, using office space to provide training on Microsoft office systems.

Meanwhile Hot Air, an all-male quartet in which James sings bass, has just won its first major booking to appear at the Claremont Fete Champetre, a kind of al-fresco Glyndebourne-style event near Esher, complete with dinner, musical entertainment and fireworks, in aid of the National Trust each evening from July 15 to 19. Lead singer is Norman Litty, who sells vitamins for a living, Bob Jury, an internet consultant sings tenor and Neil Barton, another computer expert, is the baritone. Their repertoire ranges from Gilbert & Sullivan to "Ol" Man River" and "the Whiffenpoof Song". We wish them all a run of fine, mosquito-free nights.

FOOTBALL clubs don't just employ footballers these days of course. Without the extra financial resources needed to buy good players and pay their wages, even the most dedicated of teams are doomed to fail, as Barnsley, Bolton and Crystal Palace know to their cost. All three clubs won promotion to the Premier League a year ago; all three are heading back down again next season because they lacked the cash to compete.

In an attempt to avoid a similar fate, Nottingham Forest plc yesterday moved to consolidate winning promotion by hiring Zone, a firm of specialist merchandising consultants to boost their outside income. Last year Zone recruited Edward Freedman, a former managing director of Manchester United Merchandising. which increased its annual turnover from £2.7m to £28.7m over the last five years.

He tells me his remit is to provide Forest with a "positive brand image", not just to sell more kit to long-suffering supporters and their kids. Possible ideas include a new fanzine and a club museum, which might just possibly bear the name of Brian Clough, the club's most controversial character in recent years.

CHARLES SCOTT, who has run Cordiant, the advertising agency formerly known as Saatchi & Saatchi, since the soap-opera bustup three years ago which saw the eponymous brothers expelled from the business they founded and set up elsewhere, has joined the board of TBI, the airports and property group. as a non-executive director. I gather he has been head-hunted to help the group develop its airport management business, especially in the US, and complete the shift away from its roots in the property business.

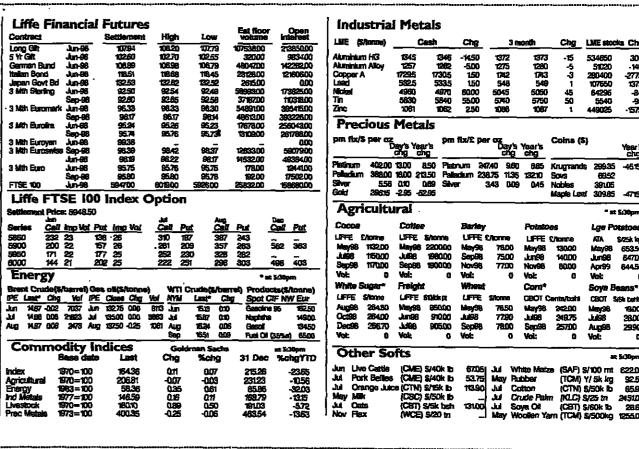
BRIAN TORA, marketing director at private client stockbrokers Greig Middleton (and a columnist for "Your Money", our personal finance section on Saturdays), tells me of a dramatic day at the races at Huntington, in the heart of John Majorland this week. Greig Middleton sponsored the Ladies Open Championship for the second successive year. The favourite fell, the second favourite unseated its rider and an outsider, Boxing Match, ridden by Vicki Roberts came through to win. She also drove the horse to the meeting and collected the prizes on behalf of the trainer and the owner.

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Chelsea look to avoid pitfalls of past success

CHELSEA jetied into the is- the final. In their first serious deland of Martinique last night with nothing to declare but Gianfranco Zola's genius and a Atvidaberg, they were eliminew item of silverware. The nated on away goals. Cup-Winners' Cup triumph over VfB Stuttgart in Stockholm stirred blue remembered thrills of when they won the same competition in 1971. The task facing Gianluca Vialli, once his team's Caribbean holiday is over, is to ensure that the similarities end there.

Twenty-seven years ago, following the defeat of Real Madrid in Athens, no one seriously questioned the Chelsea captain's greeting to the crowds who welcomed them back to Fulham Town Hall. "We're the kings of Europe now," Ron Harris exclaimed with all the subtlety which marked his tackling. Within four seasons, they

Lest the connection between the two events seem tenuous, it should be noted that the first ing to fall apart came within

fence of the trophy, against the Swedish part-timers at

Chelsea's failure to build on an exceptional start to the Seventies was a complex affair, involving the construction of a stand they could not afford and a communication breakdown between a cerebral manager, Dave Sexton, and some of his more maverick players.

The events of last February, when Ruud Gullit was unexpectedly sacked by Ken Bates. suggest that the extent to which Vialli is allowed to manage in the manner he chooses may hold the key to avoiding similar strife this time.

Even Bates, the grumpy grey eminence of SW6, cannot quibble with Vialli's record as player-manager, albeit with personnel inherited from

Chelsea, having won nothing bar the Second Division title and the Full Members' Cup since the Sexton era, have al-

As Gianluca Vialli's team celebrate their European triumph, Phil Shaw still sees room for improvement at Stamford Bridge

Danny Granville.

It is anomalous, incidental-

ly, that Glenn Hoddle (whose

sojourn as Chelsea manager

suddenly seems a long time

ago) has overlooked the ad-

mittedly waspish Wise in his

more prosaic midfield opera-

would appear to represent a re-

sounding vindication of

Chelsea's policy of buying

abroad. However, for every for-

eign recruit that has adapted to

the rigours of the domestic

other who has not.

Wednesday's cuphoria

ready added to March's Coca- Wise, Michael Duberry and Cola Cup win over Middles-

The Swedish newspaper Svenska Dagbladet spoke of an "Engelsk fest" in the Rasunda Stadium. The headline must have referred to Chelsea's 16,000 followers, who pumped up the volume whenever their team appeared to be flagging, for in truth the Anglo-Sexon influence on the pitch was not pronounced.

Neither, happily, was it entirely absent. The captain, Dennis Wise, produced the marvellously incisive pass from which Zola struck his stunning winner within 20 seconds of appearing as a late substitute.

Yet whereas the side led by Celestine Babayaro, Lau-Harris contained only three players not born in England, the only Englishmen among the 12 involved against Stuttgart were

As a consequence, the

strength available to Vialli has not run sufficiently deep to paper over the cracks whenever match-winners such as Zola have been injured. One of the challenges confronting Vialli must be to prevent Chelsea becoming simply a collection of cup showmen, raising their game in one-off matches but without the resilience to push World Cup plans in favour of for the championship.

Gullit would be entitled to point out that his team, rather than Arsenal, carried the main threat to Manchester United at the time of his demise.

The final Premiership table reveals that despite finishing fourth. Chelsea lost no fewer than 15 games, most of the deslog, like Zola, Frank Leboeuf feats occurring since the change and Gustavo Poyet, there is an- of management.

It may also seem invidious to criticise players who have kent rent Charvet and Bernard Lam- a clean sheet in a major final, bourde have proved nothing so especially on a pitch of which far other than that Gullit's many of both sides were transknowledge of the French scene parently suspicious. But there

was inferior to Arsène were enough fraught moments in front of Ed De Goey to suggest that the first area which Vialli should address is his defence. The partnership of Lebocuf and Duberry is errorprone, while Steve Clarke, who has been at Stamford Bridge longer than anyone except Bates, has passed his peak.

There is also a case to be made for additions to the strikers' department if Chelsea are to graduate from being pretenders to contenders in the League. Mark Hughes has received a renewed lease of life hecause of the squad-rotation system introduced by Gullit, but in his 35th year he is understandably most effective when playing in short bursts.

Vialli, too, reaches 34 during the close season and Zola will be 32 by the time Chelsea report back to training. Michael Laudrup, whose transfer from Rangers is in the balance after a dispute between the clubs. could well be the first of many high-profile recruits should the deal go through.

Zola: The Cup-Winners' Cup-winner

In the meantime, as they reflect on a campaign of great achievement on their beach, Vialli's men also have a trip to Monte Carlo to contemplate. They will contest the European Super Cup against Real Madrid or Juventus on Monaco's ground in August.

Their efforts also had a knock-on effect for Aston Villa, whose once-desperate season has ended in qualification for Arsenal won the Double.

the Uefa Cup thanks to the London club.

The ripples of Chelsea's satisfaction have even reached Highbury in the form of a positive augury on the eve of the FA Cup final. For it was in that heady spring of 71, when all the main prizes except the European Cup and the Uefa Cup last came to London - as might well happen again this year - that

Day when courage was not enough

ADDRESSING the men he was about to lead against Newcastle United in the 1952 FA Cup final, by then in his 38th year, Joe Mercer declared. "Don't forget - nobody starts favourites against Arsenal."

If stirred by their captain's call to arms, the horse players in Arsenal's line-up were not inclined to disagree with the odds that had been laid against them.

Mercer was taking out a . team stricken by illness and injuries. Welsh international Ray at Arsenal send sincere con-Daniel wore a protective covering over the plaster cast that encased a broken wrist; Jimmy Logie, his right thigh strapped could barely conceal a limp; long out of hospital hadn't completely shaken off the effects of blood poisoning. Cliff Holton, the only fully-fit centre- forward available to Arsenal's manager, Tom Whittaker, was turning out in his first FA Cup tie.

Speaking last week from Johannesburg, his home for more than 30 years, Alex Forbes, the Scottish international who was at right-half for Arsenal said. "Things got so bad I imagined us turning up at Wembley in an ambulance. Even Arsenal fans among the gamblers I mixed with in those days were betting

Arsenal's troubles began after defeating Chelsea in a replayed semi-final to set up a possible championship and Cup double 19 years before their north London rivals Tottenbam Hotspur became the first club to achieve it this century.

Playing three games in four days over Easter (in those days a feature of the League programme) Arsenal were left counting their wounded. First Daniel, who broke a wrist in collision with Stan Mortensen at Blackpool on Good Friday, At Bolton, the following day, Daniel's veteran deputy. Leslie Compton, pulled a muscle. Forty-cight hours later (and the present crop of players complain of strain!) Logie was badly hurt against Newcastle at Arthur Shaw, their third centre-



Tomorrow Wembley stages a repeat of the 1952 Cup final. Ken Jones talks to one of the losing side from 46 years ago

Bromwich with five reserves in the team left Arsenal with the task of winning 7-0 at Old Trafford to gain the League title ahead of Manchester United. Whittaker conceded in a telegram to Matt Busby - "All gratulations on a worthy championship success."

In an autobiography Tom Whittaker's Arsenal Story pub-"Up in Newcastle my rival manager and old friend. Stan Sevmour, in a radio interview, was saying: 'All these stories about injuries from Highbury may be just a trick by Tom Whittaker to put us off our guard.' Oh Stan, if you only knew what went on at Highbury in those desperate and disappointing weeks."

Forty-six years on, Forbes, now 73 and together with goalkeeper George Swindin and outside-left Don Roper one of three members of the 1952 team still living, recalls fear of an epidemic in the dressing-room. "When Jimmy [Logie] followed Doug Lishman into hospital we began to wonder about conditions in the treatment room. something that hadn't occurred to us before because they were

supposed to be the best." Whittaker, formerly the club's physiotherapist, ordered all equipment to be removed and sterilised. Training refuse was immediately burned. "One joke was that a sign should be painted on the dressing-room doors to show where the dead could be picked up but the seriousness of the situation didn't escape us," Forbes recalled.

Bought from Sheffield United for £12,000 in 1948 after making five of 14 appearances in Scotland's colours, Forbes was both skilful and hard, his balance a reminder that he could have made a name in ice hockey. A key figure when Arsenal de-

A 3-1 defeat at West feated Liverpool 2-0 to win the FA Cup two years earlier he approached the 1952 final worrying about his great pal Logie. It isn't the benefit of hindsight

that persuades Forbes to think that Logie should not have been sent out against Newcastle. "He was a sick man, really sick. There was a hole in his leg where the poison had been drained and by rights he should have still been in hospital. I'm sure it couldn't lished shortly before his death happen today but things then Doug Lishman, like Logie, not in 1956, Whittaker went over were a lot different. There was the trials that quickly followed. only the championship and the Cup to play for and without Jimmy, who was a brilliant inside-forward, we had no chance of beating Newcastle." One night in the sweet long

ago Forbes told of Logie's disappearance from Arsenal's dressing-room at Wembley before the 1950 final. "We were out of the tunnel and almost onto the pitch when he trotted out," Forbes recalled. "When we lined up for the presentations I heard his voice. 'Alex,' he shouted, 'it got beat, Alex.' We'd backed a dog in the 2.30 and Jimmy bad sneaked into the ambulance room to get the result. The wee man was nerveless but in 1952 I wept for him." Arsenal's run of bad luck

(hundreds of suggestions including lucky charms and potions had been received at Highbury) continued into the final. After only 18 minutes Wally Barnes was crippled when attempting to block Jackie Milburn. With Roper moving to right-back the Welshman limped on to the wing, but it was soon obvious that he could not continue, leaving Arsenal (no substitutes then) a man short for the time that remained.

It became known as one of their finest hours. Daniel carried on bravely despite a fall that again broke the partly knitted bone in his wrist. But, in truth. Arsenai were down to nine men. "By then Jimmy [Logic] was knackered," Forbes re-



Alex Forbes (left) tangles with Robert Mitchell at Wembley

up and was sent to play on the

With just 20 minutes left, Newcastle's manager, Seymour, grew restive. Turning to Reg Davies, a young Welsh insideforward and future international recently signed from Southend United, he said, "This isn't good enough. If it isn't settied today you'll be selected for

turned his considerable financial

attention towards a famous old

club languishing near the bottom

of the Nationwide League. But

despite failure to reach the Sec-

ond Division promotion play-off

final this week, a disappointment

that followed shortly after the

abrupt dismissal of Ray Wilkins

as team manager, it would still

be hard to find a genuine Ful-

ham supporter wishing to turn

every other club in their division,

and a good many others besides,

but Al Faved is not the first of

English football's new generation

of mega-rich proprietors to dis-

cover that money does not buy

you instant success. Ironically, it

Their £8m team is the cuvy of

the clock back.

By Adam Szreter

called. "He could hardly stand of Seymour's mouth when Ar- was on the floor. "Because I alsenal almost went ahead. "I ready had a Cup winner's think if Lishman's header had gone in instead of bouncing off the bar we would have pulled off the impossible," Forbes said. "As the ball went over I saw Jimmy's shoulders slump as 'he trudged wearily back to touch-

When George Robledo ended Arsenai's gallant resistance The words were hardly out the inside of an upright Forbes glory."

medal, losing didn't seem so bad and I was relieved that there wouldn't be extra time. Then I felt a tug at my collar. It was Joe Mercer pulling me up, shouting that we could still save the match.

When it was over, Scymour stood to shake Whittaker's hand. "Tom, ours is the cup," he with a header that went in off said. "Yours the honour and the

Fulham's future looks bright do and Chris Coleman alongside the more experienced Paul

> Whether Keegan will be a part of that future, and in what role, remains to be seen. It is beager in the summer and revert to his previous job, but if he found it difficult keeping his pose out of Wilkins' business then he

Al Fayed's money has already produced miracles in SW6, and more critical to Fulham's future onel Perez pulled off three than Keegan of course is Al Fayed himself. Unlike the Jack ed the vital goal in front of Walkers and Jack Haywards, Al Fayed has no deen-rooted attachment to his club and could pull the plug at any time. In the meantime, though, as Keegan cent attendance records are said after the game on Wednes-

MacLeod has ambitions as Celtic coach

MURDO MacLEOD, the asfirmed that he would like to take over at Parkhead following Wim Jansen's decision to leave.

The former Scottish international had forged a close working relationship with Jansen and was expected to leave after the Dutchman resigned on Monday. Now, however, MacLeod - who has previously managed Partick would like to succeed the man he helped guide Celtic to the League title last Saturday "I definitely want to stay with the club and I'd be delighted to get the job as head coach," he said yesterday.

Chris Waddle, who resigned as the Burnley manager on Tuesday despite leading the club to Second Division safety, said vesterday that he wants to stav in football - as a player, coach or manager. "I wasn't deterred by coming away from Burnley. If I can get a job in managing or coaching so be it."

"I've kept myself fit and I know I can still play. I know I can do a job for somebody. Look at Peter Reid. When he lost his Manchester City job, he went and played for two or three clubs before he went back into management.

"I've played over 30 games this season and that was basically trying to combine the two jobs. If I was to concentrate on the one I'm sure I'd be even fit-

West Ham's David sistant coach at Celtic, has con- Unsworth, their manager Harry Redknapp and the director of football, Peter Storrie, are hoping to find a compromise to allow the defender to spend more time with his family without having to leave the club.

Speculation has been rife that Unsworth would be returning to the north of England because his wife was homesick following his move from Everton at the beginning of the

But the centre-back is so happy playing for West Ham that he wants to find a compromise - such as possibly taking an extra day off each week to be with his family in the

"We are going to sit down with Harry and Peter and sort out the situation," he said. "I've always said that football-wise the move down here has been absolutely fantastic for me. I'm playing what I would call the most consistent football of my career and I'm looking forward to next season playing with West Ham."

The Serbian midfielder Joyo Bosancic has been released by relegated Barnsley, after making 14 Premiership starts this season for the Tykes. The Dutch striker. Laurens Ten Heuvel, and young defender. Dean Jones, have also been released.

Ray Graydon has been named as the new Walsall manager following last week's sacking of Jan Sorensen

lustice for Charlton and Sunderland

First Division play-offs on ance for 11 years. Wednesday night as the sides who finished third and fourth in the table - Sunderland and Charlton - booked their places in the Wembley final on 25

Sunderland, who just missed out on automatic promotion, scaled their trip to Wembley with a 2-0 win over sixth-placed Sheffield United, while Charlton beat fifth-placed Ipswich

Sunderland had to claw back a 2-1 deficit from the first leg and it was unfortunate that the United defender Nicky Marker drew them level by diverting Allan Johnston's 20-yard effort into his own net in the 22nd minute.

Top scorer Kevin Phillips then gave Sunderland a deserved lead in the 38th minute - which equals Brian Clough's post-war record.

Sunderland continued to bombard United's goal in the an hour. first half, but after the break Lisensational saves to deny Unit-

40,092 at the Stadium of Light. Shaun Newton secured Chariton's place in the final by wrapping up a 2-0 aggregate victory at The Valley. Charlton held a 1-0 advantage from the minute effort clinched Charl-

JUSTICE was done in the ton's first Wembley appear-

Northampton staged the comeback of the play-offs in the Second Division after trailing 3-1 to Bristol Rovers in the first leg. Carl Hegg, returning after a four-match suspension. fired them into a 34th-minute lead and Ian Clarkson drew the Cobblers level on 61 minutes.

Ray Warburton sealed a 3-0 second-leg success and 4-3 aggregate triumph in the 77th minute. Northampton will now meet Grimsby at Wembley on 24 May for a First Division place next season.

Grimsby, who finished third in the Second Division and won the Auto Windscreens Shield at Wembley last month, had Kevin Donovan to thank for their second trip to the twin tow-

ers this season. with his 34th goal of the season time against Fulham to clinch He struck nine minutes from a 2-1 aggregate win, after Kevin Keegan's men had had Paul Peschisolido sent off after half

> In the Third Division, Torquay stormed to Wembley with a 4-1 second-leg win and 7-2 aggregate victory over Scarborough, who had two players sent off. Torquay will meet Colchester in the final on May 22, although Colchester needed extra time to bear 10-man Barnet who had held held a 1-0 advantage from the

Walker at Wembley again

Non-League notebook

By Rupert Metcalf

CLIVE WALKER, the former Chelsea and Woking forward who now turns out for Cheltenham Town, is not used to being marked by a defender older than himself. That is what may lie in wait for him, though, if be is selected for Sunday's FA Umbro Trophy final.

Although the Gloucestershire club can field two other strikers, Dale Watkins and Jason Eaton, who have hit 33 goals between them this term. Walker will surely play some part against Southport. The 40-yearold - he turns 41 later this month - has become a Trophy specialist, having collected winners' medals with Woking in 1994, '95 and '97.

player-manager, Paul Futcher, who will be 42 in September, will be making his debut at the national stadium. In a distinguished Football League career which began with Chester 26 years ago, the stylish central defender never reached Wembley.

Sunday will also be a first appearance there for both clubs. "To be the manager that takes this club to Wembley for the first time in their 117-year history makes it very special," Futcher said. "And to have the chance at 41 to turn out at Wembley, when I thought the opportunity had passed me by, is something be-

yond my wildest dreams." In charge at Cheltenham is Steve Cotterill who, at 33, is believed to be the youngest manager to lead out a team at a senior Wembley final. His side are the bookmakers' favourites for the Trophy, thanks largely to In contrast, Southport's a closing run of six wins

(including two against Southport) in eight games which saw them finish in second place behind Halifax Town in the GM Vauxhall Conference. Southport, however, lost sev-

en of their last eight matches and ended up in 16th place. The Lancashire club will also have less support on Sunday: they have sold about 8,000 tickets while Cheltenham have got rid of around twice that number. The Conference will reveal

its plans for a new two-tier

structure next week. Subject to ratification at next month's annual general meeting, it will start the 1999-2000 season with a second division of 22 clubs - a development which would have a dramatic impact on its three feeder leagues. Bill King, the Conference chairman, said: "Our proposed revision is about clubs and fans, not the tradition of [other] competitions."

their more expensive acquisitions, Paul Peschisolido, that did much FULHAM have made almost as to undermine Fulham's hopes in many enemies as new admirers the play-off semi-final second leg since Mohammed Al Fayed at Grimsby on Wednesday.

They came close but, as Kevin Keegan, their erstwhile chief operations manager and now team manager, said after the 1-0 defeat that consigned Fulham to at least another year in the Second Division: "My job is to make sure we get into the Premiership within four years now. We're a bit short of time but it'll make it more exciting."

Judging by the comments flowing into The Fulham Independent website vesterday that is exactly how it is seen by the majority of their fans, both old and new. Little more than two years after struggling near the foot of the Third Division, re-

Bracewell and Peter Beardsley the future looks bright.

lieved he will appoint a new manwill have to choose his man carefully or take it on himself.

being broken at Craven Cottage day, "Maybe Fulham FC start- first leg and Newton's 36thwas the sending-off of one of and with players like Peschisoli- ed here tonight."

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Dance swings into Derby rhythm By Richard Edmondson a: Yest DURING his long subbatical from the race track Walter Swinburn was sustained by the thought of afterneous like yest The control of the Knavesmire. Greek Dance's is no fleeting comet of ability at Michael Stoute's Newmarket yard. He has impressed from the first morning of term with both his solition and attitude. "I liked him from day one, everyone did." Swinburn said. "We were all swinburn said. "We were all swinburn said." We were all swinburn said and we'd been conservative with him, and, although the form didn't work out to make a titule swinburn said to go 4-1 for the Derby. Stoute financiae reaction was to go 4-1 for the Derby. Stoute financiae reaction was to go 4-1 for the Derby. Stoute financiae reaction was to go 4-1 for the Derby. Stoute financiae reaction was to go 4-1 for the Der

quire just another two and a half

minutes for the jockey to es-

pinnacle in three weeks' time. Greek Dance established himin one book. Shergar, Shahrasto squeeze up in the rider's heart again. to make space for yet another Blue Riband winner.

McCoy hits 250

TONY McCOY moved past the 250 mark for the season with a double at Porth yesterday. The champion, however, starts a five-day ban on Sunday.

Nottingham

2.30 Esperto 3.00 Republic 3.35 Polly Golightly

4.05 Sadler's Blaze 4.35 Wild Palm 5.10 Sweet

GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places).

STALLS: Inside (except 51 & 6t stands side)

DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

LEADING TRAINERS: J Dunlop 21-122 (172%), J Fanshawe 948 (183%), M Channon 9-76 (183%), R Hollinshead 9-125 (72%)

LEADING JOCKEYS: T Sprake 17-40 (121%), G Duffield 16-108 (151%), IN Hillis 12-62 (194%), M Roberts 10-95 (105%).

FAYOURITES: 228-664 (343%), B Roberts 10-95 (105%), B LINKERED (st TIME: Hobert Junction (435), Arzani (visored, 230),

2.30 NOTTINGHAM SELLING STAKES

(CLASS G) \$2,500 added 1m 1f 213yds

WOODTHORPE AUCTION STAKES

epublic, 7-2 Crackle, 7-1 Able Pete, 8-1 Lord Stroller, net, 10-1 Golden Charm, 12-1 Tough Guy, 14-1 others

3.35 BULWELL HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,800 added 5f

10-60 BEAU VENTURE (5) (D) B Pating 10 10 0 T Sprake 2 20:30 PLEASURE TIME 210) (CD) C Smith 5 95 A Clark 5 V 24-44 POLLY GOLUGATITY (15) M Biensbert 5 9 5 N Adlems 15 B 0525-0 BMPERIAL HONEY (11) Mrs A Swribank 3 9 3 G Duffield. 17

(CLASS E) £3,800 added 2YO 6f

COUGH GUY M Jarvis 90 ...

fluctuating weight and regain fo- winning seasonal debut] and we cus for riding. Now it may re- couldn't have asked for any more from him there.

"He just seems to have tablish himself at his profession's everything that goes with a good racehorse, including the In winning vesterday's Glastemperament. Even though he gow Stakes Swinburn's mount put daylight between him and the others today it felt to me that self as favourite for the Derby he was just doing enough in front. I believe there could be tani and Lammtarra may have the same sort of progression

> "I was delighted with the way he could change pace and po-

> > Newbury 3.10

Gnet 6-1 7-1 9-4 7-1 Auresome Wells 11-2 5-1 4-1 4-1

8008 5-1 5-1 5-1 6-1

Random Kindness 11-2 5-1 11-2 6-1

C H L T

7-1 7-1 8-1 7-1

10-1 10-1 6-1 9-1

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Young Bigwig (Thirsk 4.25) NB: Random Kindness (Newbury 3.10)

Greek Dance has yet to utilise his gearbox fully this season. He moved smoothly throughout yesterday, his short tail wagging behind him, and then made his market rival Capri look rather leaden in the closing stages. Six lengths was the winning margin and Lad-

Surdent 20-1 15-1 25-1 20-1 Kings Assembly 25-1 20-1 25-1 25-1

Filmore West 25-1 33-1 33-1 25-1

Each way a quantit the citis, places 1, 2, 3

C - Corat H - William Hill L - Ladbrokes T - Total

10-1 12-1 12-1 12-1

N-1 12-1 N-1 12-1

18-1 12-1 14-1 14-1

Premier Night

Bit On The Side

500-0 SWEET MAGIC (44) (D) P Howing 7 9 3 M Roberts 16 66340 STATOYORK (18) D Steev 5 8 10 R Hughes 1 0n-60 DANCING MYSTERY (11) E Wheeler 4 8 10 S Camon (7) 9 B

Minerum weight 7st 10th, The handcap weight. Take Nonce 7st 5th. BETTING: 5-1 Soaked, 8-1 Polity Gollightty. 7-1 Featherstone Lane, 8-1 Statoyork, 10-1 Pleasure Time, Imperial Honey, 14-1 others

4.05 SAXONDALE HANDICAP (CLASS D) E5,000 added 2m

1 C30-04 BOWCLIFFE COLIRT (21) (0) J Alehurst 6 9 ft. . A Clark 5 2 5-6433 PARADISE NAVY [5] (0) C Egerton 9 9 2 ... R Hughes 7 8 3 560 WORLD BORRESS (J83) B R Milmen 8 6 7 ... T Sprake 2 4 030-4 SADLER'S BLAZE (17) (2) P Harts 4 8 5 ... G Duffield 6 V 5 08006 TASIK CHINI (234) P Cole 4 6 5 A Whelen 8 6 0450 AMILARGE (200) (CD) M Britan 8 8 3 G Carler 9 B 7 250-0 RANGER SLOAME (5) (0) G Ferro 6 7 10 ... J Bramhill's 8 0-046 BRYNKIR (73) (D) D Marray Smith 4 7 10 ... J Bramhill's 5 00 SHHTTY (27) T BB 4 7 10 ... R Briefand (7) 4 Minimum: 7st 10h. True handicap weights Brynkir 7st 8b, Shiny 7st 8b, BETTING: 7-2 Sadler's Blaze, 4-1 Bowcliffe Court, 9-2 Paradise Mary, 13-2 World Express, 7-1 Ranger Sloane, Brynkir, 6-1 Amearge, 12 others

4.35 GOTHAM LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F)

16 455-64 HOBART JUNCTION (25) S C Wilsons 38 7A Whelean 15 & BETTING: 5-1 Floren De Cool, 6-1 Bolfen Frank, 7-1 White Settler, 8-1 Du-ello, Bold Time, 10-1 Classic Flord, Admirats Flore, 12-1 others

5.10 STRELLEY HANDICAP (CLASS D)

6-65 RACHAELS NORTH (13) R Armstrong 9 7 R Price :

£5.500 added 3YO 1m

344-0 ASYAAD (14) BHE 97.

FEATHERSTONE LANE (15) (D) Miss L Social 789..

way he travelled that day," he a tabby on a plump cushion. said. "He's a bit fitter now and I loved the way he travelled again. This horse would have to said. "I've had my battles and

the Derby] after today." Earlier, Busy Flight had broken ranks from a conga formation for the Yorkshire Cup to suggest he might be the leading stayer for this campaign. Instalment No 2 comes in the Ascot Gold Cup next month.

As the five-year-old responded compliantly for

"It's been a hard job because he's a very strong horse," Hills be seriously considered [for my arms are now three inches longer."

IOnger:
THE DERBY (Epsons, 6 June): Corat: 8-4 (with a run) Cape Verd, 6-1 City Honours 8 Saratoga Springs, 7-1 Greek Dance, 8-1 Guland, 10-1 Heami, 14-1 Border Arrow, Croco Rouge & Dr Fong, Ladbrotkees: 2-1 (with a run) Cape Verd, 4-1 Greek Dance, 6-1 Saratoga Springs, 7-1 Cry Honours, 8-1 Guland, 8-1 Hamil, 14-1 Croco Rouge, William Hill: 2-1 (with a run) Cape Verd, 5-1 Greek Dance, 6-1 Saratoga Springs, 7-1 Cry Honours, 8-1 Guland, 10-1 Border Arrow & Haamil, 14-1 Croco Rouge, 16-1 Dr Fong

HYPERION'S TV TIPS

2.40: GORSE missed last season with a stess-fracture in a fetlock but began making up for lost time by showing time pace to win at Salisbury on his debut. Henry Candy has a good strike-rate with his sprinters and this cost can cope with today's step up in grade. Jimmy Too has travelled a long way and looks a threat.

3.10: PAPUA failed to get his head in front last year but was gelded in the autumn and that could mean him regaining the winning thread from a lenient handicap mark. Grief, with a talented claimer in the saddle. may well trouble the selection.

3.40: JTBE is highly strung but should be given a chance to redeem her tall reputation following a disappointing eighth of 16 runners in the 1,000 Guineas.

Thirsk

HYPERION 2.20 Fancy A Fortune 2.50 Millitrix 3.25 Night City 3.55 Nuclear Debate 4.25 Young Bigwig 5.00 Onefourseven 5.30 Southern Dominion

STALLS: Straight course - centre; Round courte - riside
DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best for 71 & 1m.

© LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 15-85 (185°-); J Berry 14-118 ● LEADING HANGES: M JORDSON 201105-0; J BERTY W-10 (19%) M Staute 13-35 (37%) D Nichols 13-15 (13%) ● LEADING JOCKEYS: J Fortune 20-130 (154%), K Darley 17-114 (145%), J Carroll 13-139 (194%), A Cuthane 11-116 (93%) ● FAVOURITIES: 150-433 (346%), BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Fancy A Fortune & Anetta (220), Sea

Yn Malte (4.25), Warrior King (visored, 2.20).

2.20 MOWBRAY SELLING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 7f

2.50 GORDON FOSTER MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,200 added 1m

3.25 LEVY BOARD CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3.500 added 1m 4f

374-0 DESERT HORHER (45) (C) Mrs M Revely 7 9 10. A Cuthana 2 15000 MIGHT CITY (3) (D) K Bufe 7 9 0....... D Saccarey (3) 6 52264 EVEZOR RUPO (15) N Lumedon 6 9 4 . A McCarthy (3) 4 8 5300- GOLDEN THUNGERBOUT (1515) N Trikes 5 9 2 K Darkey 5 00040 REINHARDT (15) L Loyd-Lames 5 9 0...... T Williams 3 60305- HBLL FARM DANCER (340) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A Genth 1 TMG 0.4 Depart Stollage 3.1 Might (15) A.1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A Genth 1 TMG 0.4 Depart Stollage 3.1 Might (15) A.1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A Genth 1 Might (15) A.1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A Genth 1 Might (15) A.1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A Genth 1 Might (15) A.1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A Genth 1 Might (15) A.1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A Genth 1 Might (15) A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A Genth 1 Might (15) A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W Brisbourne 7 8 7 . A 1 HBLE FARM DANCER (540) W BRISBOURNE (540) W BRISBOURN BETTING: 9-4 Depart Fighter, 3-1 Night City, 4-1 Hill Farm Dencer, 5-1 Golden Thunderbolk, 13-2 Evezio Rufo, 12-1 Reinhardi

3.55 ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) 25,000 added 6f 42 STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 61
42 BUSHWHACKER (22) C Egerton 49? _____ D Harrison 12
HILLINSKI M Malineaux 49? _____ D Harrison 13
0 BOLD SARAH (22) R Holinehead 492. ____ A Culhane 6
00- DYCE (214) J Besting 492. _____ Edinpands 13
0 ADDRE (12) J Gosten 38 ft ______ __ J Tale 15
0 BOLINDLESS SHAPE (11) L Curran 38 ft _____ J Tale 15
0 BOLINDLESS SHAPE (11) L Curran 38 ft _____ J Tale 15
0 DEEP SPACE (237) (8F) E Durison 38 ft _____ W Rysn 2
53500 HOUSE ON FIRE (55) G Woodward 38 ft S D Williams 14
0 HUSSAR (28) C Thornton 38 ft _____ Dean Micksown 10

503-30 MANIMA'S BOY (22) J Berry S 8 Tl ___P Fessey (3) 17 RETTING: 9-4 Nuclear Debats, 4-1 Deep Space, 8-1 Busheducker, Adobt 10-1 Boundless Shape, 12-1 Black Army, 14-1 Tie Brask, 16-1 Others

4.25 49'S DICK PEACOCK SPRINT HANDICAP (CLASS D) \$10,000 61

0-0010 YOUNG BIGWIG (6) (C) (D) D Chapman 4 10 D 30/600 HAWA AL HASAMAAT (6) (D) M Sidtan 6 10 0 M Byrre (7)

330- THISTLE PARK (239) (BF) T D Barron 3 9 3 ... K Darley 22

100-03 SEA YA MAITE (8) (D) \$ Bowrng 4 8 2 . Data Gibson 23 6 -612/2 BALLANTRAE BOY (8) (BF) J Golde 4 8 2 (Se) 0346 DOUBLE POWER (242) L Uoyd-James 3 8 0 T Williams 20 BETTING: 15-2 Unshakan, 9-1 Sensoe, Brecongill Lad, 10-1 Jewhari, 11-1 Micuche, Young Bigwig, 12-1 Ballantres Boy, 14-1 Logantee, Middle East, Night Fight, Sea Ya Mede, 18-1 King Uno, Ruco Lad, Thistie Park, 25-1 Archello, Grand Chapeau, Miko's Double, 33-1 Alfahaal, Bacchus, Ivory's Grab Hire, Miss Eliminator, 40-1 Double Power, Thwash, Hawa Al Masamast

5.00 HELMSLEY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,800 added 2m

ic, Shadirean, 7-1 Northern Motto, 12-1 Unchanged, 16-1 others

5.30 KILBURN HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,200 added 5f 0-0000 SQUIRE CORRIE (2)(C) D Crepman 6 10 0A McCarthy (3) 10

BETTING: 11-4 For The Present, 7-2 Storyfelles, 9-1 Royel Dome, Bel lymote, Southern Dominion, 10-1 Squire Corrie, Nobelino, 12-1 others

Stratford

6.00 Royal Barge 6.30 Ashwell Boy 7.00 Golden Melody 7.35 Comedy Gayle 8.00 Grey Smoke 8.30 Storm Forecast

GOING: Good to Firm (Good in pisces)

IEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 28-98 (28:3%), D Nicholson 17-55 (30.9%), P Hobbs 14-56 (21.2%), G Balding 10-84 (15.0%),

IEADING JOCKEYS: R Durwoodly 20-87 (23%), N Williamson 18-78 (15.5%), R Johnson 14-78 (17.9%), C Llewellyn 7-58 (10.1%),

FAVOURITES: 178-487 (36.6%),
BLINKERED 1st TIME: Avoncill (700), Equity Player (vscred, 805)

6.00 TONY METHERELL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 3m 3f 1UTH GALATASORI JANE (B)(C)(D) P Nichola 8 Ti 12 (580)

22741 COMMANCHE CHEER (132) M 170 5 M Marston 52822 ROVAL BARGE (7) P Bowen 6 10 10 M Marston 5344 BALLYEDWARD (11) (0) R Buckler 8 10 4 M PhoBey 20830 RWERBANK ROSE (14) (C) W Clay 7 10 3 G Tomey 40PPF CALMOS 696 C Hemsley 7 10 3 Mass A Duckley (7) 5-PP00 RIVER ROUM (7) C Pophen 8 10 2 Revenue 1 M Powel B CP-UD ULIRU (7) C Morlock 10 10 M M RIVER (7) T Morphen (7) C Revenue 10 M M RIVER (7) B G Lette (7) B /PP453 OLD ALE (11) J Curis 8 10 0 Mr G Lette (7) B Man weight: 10st True handicap weights: Ulum 9st 12th, Oid Ale 8st 11th. BETTING: 3-1 Geletasoni Jane. 5-1 Derring Bridge, Commanche Creek, 5-1 Tilly, 7-1 Now Wei Know, Royal Berge, 10-1 Riverback Rose, 14-1 others

6.30 SCALES OF JUSTICE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 2m 5f 110yds 342231 ASHWELL BOY (7) (CD) P Hobbs 7 11 to _______ R Johnson of State Bull Enk BAY (9) (C) B Llevellyn 9 10 _______ R Johnson Stopp LOUGH TULLY (13) (D) F Jordan 8 11 0._______ D Gallegher 322EU MILLERSFORD (17) (D) (BF) N Geselee 7 11 0.C Llevellyn FFPS1/ RIJSNETTO (726) R Aher 8 11 0.______ J Callody

BETTING: 2-7 Authoral Boy, 8-1 Millerstord, 10-1 Lough Tully, 12-1 Bui-7.00 QUILTER MARES NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) \$2,000 2m 110yds F02/10 MISS ONDEE (FR) (FG) (D) (BF) M Poe 4 11 5... C Manda
1 GOLDEN MELODY (FR)(D) M Heaton-Eis 4 10 2.0 Gallagher
1 GOLDEN MELODY (FR)(D) M Heaton-Eis 4 10 2.0 Gallagher
1 GOLDEN MELODY (FR)(D) Microson 5 10 10... R Johnson
1 GORDEN MORLOF (10) J Ning 5 10 10 ... W Marston B
1 SURNING COST (F70) R Pescock 8 10 10 ... J Gallachy
1 GORDEN UP (174) Mis C Holes 5 10 10 ... J Cullichy
1 GORDEN MISS (1950) (16) R Hodges 8 10 10 ... T Dascombe

BETTING: 2-1 Miss Onzies, 3-1 Golden Melody, 4-1 Jangiyoyes, 8-1 Achill Rambler, 10-1 Greatest Friend, 20-1 Avonclift, 25-1 others

7.35 INTERLINK EXPRESS NOV HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £4,000 3m

BETTRIC: 2-1 Cornedy Gayte, 9-2 Big Bends Are Back, 11-2 Bend Boy, 7-1 Kingsthorpe, 8-1 Sister Lark, 11-1 Mr Med, 12-1 others

8.05 HARRISONS OPTICIANS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 3m

CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 3ml

1.4PP CETIC ABBEY (a) (C) (D) V Wilsten 10 11 0_M D S Jones
2.4220 3TORHITRACIOS (27, 0) C Weedon 9 11 0_M M Richards
3.1F012P FATHER SKY (F49) (D) O Sterwood 7 11 8_J A McCarthy B
4.F-25P GREY SHOKE (43) (C) Miss H Kingk 6 11 5_____ I Culloty
5.2PPR DANGER BABY (13) (D) P Bowen 8 15_____ A Johnston B
5.0S003 HERMES HARVEST (13) (C) (D) D Wilstens 10 11 5_B Powell
7.6449_F IDIOTS LADY (13) (D) Mis J Perren 9 11 3_____ B Cilloret
8.1-229 PONGO WARMING (150) Miss H Kingk 9 10 ____ I R Novemby
9.46FEU JAMES PROG (182) (D) (BIF) M Pipe 11 11 0_____ C Misude
10.46324 RANDOW HARVEST (22) (BF) Mis M Revelly 9 10 8_L Wyer
1 M655 EOUITY PLAYER (10) (D) R Cufs 13 0.7 ____ C Linnestyn V
SETTING: 41 Storestracker, 5-1 Hermes Harvest, 6-1 Midd's Lady, James BETTING: 4-1 Stornstracker, 5-1 Hermes Harvest, 6-1 (diof's Lady, James Pigg, 7-1 Pongo Waring, Random Harvest, 10-1 Father Sig, 12-1 others

8.35 LUDDINGTON 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 2m 6f 110yds

32Penn ALPHA LEATHER (60) L Gressick 7 1) 0 Mr J Gre 300 AUTUMIK BLÜNDER (183) A Caroll 6 ft 0...... A Scholes (7)
P5 BENNA BEOLA (108) J Upson 6 ft 0...... A Scholes (3)
0 HERE COMES TROUBLE (27) John Berry 7 ft 0 L Aspell (3) 4 0 HERE COMEST THOUSLE (27) John Berry 7 it 0.1 Aspell (3)
5 36046 (NOCK STAR (1) T 88 7 it 0. Gary Lyons
6 70060 FF SAFE TO ASSUME (20) R Bezzigton 7 it 0. X Aspuru (3)
6 2-406 STIGNI FORECAST (63) Ales H Kingin 6 it 0. J Collody
9 0-4050 THE GADFLY (35) C Jones 6 it 0. J Collody
10 PHEPP DUNNINGS COUNTRY (18) F Tuckes 8 it 0.9 S Currough 8
11 PP LITTLE FLINIS (24) M Shepperd 5 it 9. M Richards
2 400 PERFECT VERY (165) L Circle 5 it 9. M Richards
13 1-PP45 STRAY HAPMONY (11) P Smith 8 it 9. J Sub To Assume BETTING: 7-4 Storm Forecast, 5-2 Stray Harmony, 8-1 Sale To Assu 12-1 Knock Star, 14-1 Alpha Leather, Perfect View, 16-1 others

Aintree

HYPERION 5.45 Cedar Square 6.20 Veridian 6.50 Coverdale Lane 7.25 Fairly Sharp 7.55 Eid 8.25 Cuthill Hope 8.55 Top Ace

GOING: Good to Firm.

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: D Nicholson 17-76 22.4%), M Pipe 16-104 (5.4%), G Richards 7-42 (16.7%).

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 5-44 (54.1%), A Dobbin 8-28 (28.8%), R Garridy 5-23 (21.7%). FAVOURITES: 78-201 (38.8%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

5.45 LIVERPOOL ECHO NOVICE HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 3m 1f

USSZ EASTLANDO HI-LIGHT (PTZ) J Standey 9 12 0
 Mr T Morrison (7)
 PS-23P GOLDEN DROPS (28) D N Hams 10 12 0
 Mr A White (7)
 PS-P3U RAVI CRAZY (7) O Carter 7 12 0
 Mr J Young (7)
 PS-P3U RAVI CRAZY (7) O Carter 7 12 0
 Mr J Young (7)
 PS-P3U RAVI CRAZY (7) O Carter 7 12 0
 Mr J Young (7)
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 Mr J Young (7)
 PS-P3U RAVI (7) O Carter 7 12 0
 Mr J Young (7)
 Mr J Young (7)

6.20 WEATHERBYS NOV HURDLE SKY ONE MORE FLING (9) Mrs S South 5 tr 0 G F Ryan (3)

BETTING: 6-4 Tamarindo, 5-2 Veridian, 9-2 Paris Pika, 7-1 Saleel, 33-1 6.50 CEDRIC CROSTON HANDICAP SKY

Minimum weight: 10st. Taue hendisep weights: Juhe Star Billy 9st 120, Tostano 9st 110, Albert Blein 8st 6th, Meningford 8st 36. BETTING: 3-1 Russian Castle, 7-2 Juhne Box Billy, 4-1 Coverdale Lane, Tostano, 9-2 Evangelica, 16-1 Marlingford, 25-1 Albert Blake

7.25 RADIO CITY 96.7 HANDICAP SKY THASE YUERALEE (195) (CD) M Pipe 6 12 0.... A P Mc 10-314 MORE DASH THANCASH (13) (D) Mrs M Jones 8 11 T

23-230 HIGH IN THE CLOUDS (13) (D) T Forsier 6 Tl 8 ... S Wynn

7.55 MAGIC 1548 NOVICE CHASE SKY (CLASS E) £4,200 2m 4f

8.25 SUNDAY BEST COUTURE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 26,500 2m

Mänimum: 10sz. True hiceo weights: Säver Mira; 9st 12th, Caculation Bst 11b. BETTRKG: 4-1 Cuthill Hope, 5-1 Fisming Miracle, 8-1 Last Try, 7-1 Way-ferers Way, Silver Stime, 8-1 Tapatch, 10-1 Know-No-No. 12-1 others 8.55 ARCHBISHOP BECK HS NOVICE HUR-DLE (CLASS D) £4,000 2m 110yds

46/PP- WHATASHOT (389) D McCain 8 11 0 BETTRIG: 9-4 Wynyard Lady, 7-2 A Day On The Dub, Top Acs, 9-2 Gus Cumingham, 14-1 Just Bayard, Silent Action, 25-1 others

Mannum: 7st 10th. True handicap weight: Sweet Note 7st 4th. BETTING: 7-2 Knobbleeneeze, 7-1 Flashtalide: Pleas BETTING: 11-4 Red Venus, 7-2 Volcanic Star, 5-1 Super Foman, 11-2 Bundy, 6-1 Majagera, 8-1 others

MONTY'S RETURN D Moltab 59 12 2-43504 ARCTIC STAR (15) V Thompson 3 8 7.0 Peers 2 3 DZ MAREDPOUR (13) M SIQUE 387 ... F Lynch 4 4 O.2 RICHMOND HILL (24) B HIS 387 ... K Darley 3 BETTING: 10-11 Mantapour, 5-4 Richmond HIB, 14-1 Arc-

tic Star, 16-1 Monty's Return 8.45 WOODSIDE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 1m 5f

3 60024- SAD MAD BAD (J15) M5 M Pendey 492

4 -2016 TYCOON TINA (17) W Brisbourne 492 5 54550 MEDVAN BLUE (12) I Semple 59 7 J Carroll 5 8 45030 SALSEE LAD (219) I Semple 48 13 R Lappie 4 7 543463 NIXITA'S STAR (4) M Britan 5 6 3 8 ADD4 JUNGLE FRESH (339) J Betrel 57 TJ

Minimum 7st 10th True handicap weight Jurge Frost 7st 9th BETTING; 5-2 The Butterwick Kid, 7-2 Fillel, 9-2 Sed Med Bed, 8-1 Tycoon Tina, 7-1 Minimum Star, 12-1 Midyan Blue, Selsee Lad, 20-1 Jungle Frosth STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 1m 4f

Newbury

2.40 Gorse

HYPERION 3.40 Jibe 2.10 Golden Silca (nb) 4.15 PANTAR (nap) 4.45 Thatchmas

3.10 Papua GOING: Good (Penetrometer reading 315). STALLS: Round course - Indide; Straight course - centre, DRAW ADVANTAGE; None

STALLS: Round course - Indice, Straight course - Carms, Under Abstract Head.

Left-hand course with 'm straight.

Course of south-east of town near A34 Railway station (service from London, Padding-ton) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 214; Tettersalis 28; Silver Ring 14 (QAPs faif price) Accompanied 77-year-olds or under free all enclosures. CAR PARK: South-med 22; Planca area 24; remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS: J Goeden 31 winners from 18 runners (261%), P Chapphe-Hyam 29-148 (198%), P Colle 22-187 (118%), J Dunlop 18-158 (114%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: J Reid 45 warners from 270 rules (17%), L Delton 45-212 (212%).

FAVOURITIES: 173 wins from 545 races (317%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Plyaway Hill (145).

2.10 HIGHCLERE STUD FILLIES' CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2YO 5f

- 7 declared - BETTING: 9-4 Golden Sice, 3-1 Kasisaray, 6-1 Aubricts, Virtuge Price, 8-1 Amitting Dream, Destri-

BETTING: 9-4 Golden Silca, 3-1 Kasterny, 6-1 Aubrieta, Virtege Pride, 9-1 Amezing Urean, Leannba, 10-1 Shaltberby

1997: Nadwell (USA) 2.8.5 K Darley 12-1 (P Walwyn) drown (f) 5 nm

FORM GUIDE

OCLOBEN SILCA chassed leaders, producing a good effort over 1f out and ran on well in final turiong to finals second of seven, one length behind Queensland Star in 5f conditions race at Chester last time. Kasterway won 5f novices' race at Doncaster in Noworther having made all when shalten up ran on well in final furiong, beeding Lunar
Prospector by 11-1 Aubrieta is a Daylur filly out of the 6f wriner Frennel. Vintage Prider
is a Pips Pride filly, half-sister to two winners. Amazing Dream is a Thatching filly, halfsister to three winning sprinters. Deablibs in a Destring Blade filly, half-sister to the midde-distance winner Smart Blade. Smittenby, racing prominently, led just inside finding no extra and finished second of six, 21 behind
Tony Tie in 5f conditions race at Salisbury lest time.

2.40 FURLONG CLUB CONDITIONS STAKES BEGY (CLASS B) \$12,500 added 3YO 6f

The France at the Kueney with the second order to the control of t

3.10 MIDGHAM HANDICAP (CLASS C) 28,000 BB 69

1997: Whitechapel (USA) 9.9 til L Dettor, 5-2 tor (Lord Hurtingdon) drawn (6) 7 ran FORM GUIDE

AWESOME WELLS chased leader and ted over 81 out until 21 out, but weakened in lest furlong to finish tifth of six, 221 behind Ferry Hill in 1m 41 lanted stakes race at Kempton last September. Rendom Kindniess was always prominent. leading from 31 out until 21 out, but was unable to quicken and finished second of 62. 21 behind Cohlain in 1m 44 handicap at Brighton. Papua was held up, making leadway with three furlongs to go, but was under pressure for the final furlong and finished fifth of 20. 21 behind hityati in 1m 44 handicap race at Newmarket in October, Grief was never near to challenge and finished (2th of 14, 111 behind American Whaper at Newmarket in 1m 21 handieso lest time. Macraine Read was shown to common from another of 11.11 51 behind 11.11 151 behind (21) 11.15 behind (21) 11.51 behind (21) iceo last time. Mersey Beat was always behind, coming home eighth of 11, 15) behind Assured Gamble in 1m 4) handicap at Epsom in April. Premier Night made no headway in the final 3t finishing skidh of 10, 10t behind Jlyush at Newbury in 2m handicap last September. Bit On The Side finished 23rd of 24 at Doncaster in 1m 4t handicap last November. All's Alibi was headed 4f out and weakened, finishing severath of 1 1 16t behind Ardic Owl in 1m 4f handicap at Newmarket. Selection: AWESOME WELLS

3.40 NEWBURY FILLIES' TRIAL STAKES BECT àdded 3YO 1m 2f £11,340

BETTING: 8-11 Jibs, 7-2 Abysan, 6-1 Genos, 8-1 Sultans, 12-1 Akarite
1997: Yasimak (USA) 3 8 9 K Falon 1-2 to (H Ceci) crawn (t) 4 ran
FORM GUIDE
JIBBE tracked leaders, having every chance 21 out, but weakened over 11 out to finish
eighth of 18, 271 behind Cape Verd; in 1000 Guitness at Newmarket. Abysan was held

eight of 16, 27 behind Cape Verd; in 1000 Guirleas et Newmarket. Abyeain was held up, making headway 3f out and taking lead if out to gain victory in 11th 2f maiden race at Beth in April, bearing Red Ramona by 21. Gentoa never troubled leaders, firishing sixth of 18, 71 behind Portison at Newmarket in 71 maiden race last November. Sultane made good headway 21 out, led well waste final furlong and ran ort strongly to win 71 maiden race at Newmarket in April, beating Aloha Dancer by 1/4 in 15-mirer field. Aleat-te chased leaders, but weakened approaching final furlong to finish fifth of eight 171 behind High And Low at Chester in 1th 3f fillies race.

4.15 CROOKHAM MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 1m COPPER COOKE (Saker and Buy Physe Recting Cito) M Poligiase 8 9 ... C London 21
FREDORA (Peter Goldring) M Blanchard 8 9 J Cultin 21
8 0 INDIAN FLAG (12) (P Sweeting) J Endger 8 9 A Daly (3) 16
9 00 MIDSTANNEER ROMANICE (17) (Theo Watchington) B Meeher 8 9 IT Technol 20
20 PRIECTSON PRINSH (17) (Men Spergo Lut Toolmaleses) J Cultina 8 9 S Technol 22
20 RIMERS RAINBOW (14) (Rex. L. Meech D Carpet 8 9 S Sanders 6
22 ORMERS RAINBOW (14) (Rex. L. Meech D Carpet 8 9 S Sanders 6
BETTING: 11-4 Connolessor Bay, 6-1 On The Ridge, 8-1 Golden Reprizement, 10-1 Exton Square.
Paring: 12-1 Alcazar, Distantina, Elegant Merc. Saleyenen, Temper Lad, Passy Galora, 20-1 others

1997: Faithful Son (USA) 3 9 G J Rest 12-1 (M Stoute) drawn (8) 16 ran i

FORM GUIDE

CONNOISSEUR BAY led after 11 until over 11 ourt, kept on but no chance with winner finishing second of 22, 11/4 behind Quer Assurance at Neviriarket in 71 by maxien race in October. On The Ridge is a Risk Me colt, half-brother to winning miler Barner Ridge, Golden. Reprimend made headway over 21 out, rai on well inside final hung to manage fourth of 20, 21 behind Atuf at Neviriarket in 61 maiden race in October. Ession Square is a Nureyev colt out of Jolypha, wenner of the French Oaks Pantar chased leaders on far side, having every chance over 11 out, and stayed to take third in 27-runner field, 41 behind Tom Dougal in this 31 handicage of Newmarket. Alexans a Alzao gelding, half-brother to winning miler Rapier. Selection: CONNOISSEUP EAV

4.45 MAY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added to stakes

30MO THATCHMASTER (225) (D) (Do 9 Seminer) C Horgen 7 8 12 Paul Eddeny 7 10006 Servier, (H22) (Po 5) (Cell) Nrs J Cod 4 8 11 Marian Duryer 22 306-90 PRINCESS DAMBELE (149 (D) 1955 Marian Nivolatin) W Dur 6 8 71 J Red 22 1451 ABSOLUTE UTOPIA (USA) (226) (D) (MT Lawrance) N Berry 5 2 3 Dame O Neat 5 40000 PRINCAH (M31) (D) (M5 Court Lid 8 D 3) Assient) G McCourt 5 9 7 W J O'Comor 9 5003-0 PLYMANY HILL (FFI) (11) (Pendey Flers) P Hams 4 8 5 C Loether 3 2 4000 SUMERY (27) (D) (The Hotmas Portnership) S Moodman 8 8 6 R Cochrane 6 4005 SEA DANCE (73) (D) PF Cook) E Briggs 5 8 3 A DANCE (73) (D) PF Cook) E Briggs 5 8 3 A DANCE (73) (D) PF Cook (11) Sen 9 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN GLAMORE MELIODY (FFI) (11) Sen 8 Racing) R Ingran 4 2 2 A McCalcae 11 4000 SAN G

- 22 declared - 22 decision - 24 (fb) True handless met the LD Woo 7st 4th.

BETTING: 13-2 Abdigory, Premier Generation, 8-1 Gough Leader, Carlys Quest, 12-1 Vols Vis, Zoom Up, Mono Lady, Ron's Pet, Thatchmaster, Princess Bastiefle, Absolute Litopia, 16-1 others, 1997: Premier Generation - 8-2 5 With acros. 7-1 (D Arbachnet) street (21:22 tan exclusive surrections).

FORM GUIDE

ABAJANY led until headed if out finding no esta to take second. 2) betwee Free-The Rules at Chester in to 2) headdag. Promier Generation lead well over 11 cut but headed inside final futing and inside but hid 15, 8) behind Advance Seta of Portestant in the 2t handship and retailed before the to be before Advance Sea of Portestant in the 2t handship last month. Tough Leader made headway at the buff was one paper in final 2t to come name that of 12, 3t before I largeste at homely in in the 12th handship of "Seamarks" and the person year to lead once from and take the 11th 2th handship at "Seamarks" and the person years to be a prostrong field. Zoom Up raced promotedly on stands see homing every chartes to but weakened approaching that furlang and same home mits of 5 in being 3 of Cuest at Newmarket in the 25 hand case. Selection: #34.....

Hamilton

6.15 William's Well 6.40 Volcanic Star 7.10 Knobbleeneeze 7.45 Thanks Keith 8.15 Maridpour 8.45 The Butterwick Kid

GOING: Good to Soft (Good in places) GORNG: Good to Soft (Good in places)
STALLS: Stants side (except the Inside)
DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best for th 66/yds.
□ EADNING TRAINERS: M. Johnston 33-70 (194%), J
□ EADNING JOCKEYS: M. Johnston 33-70 (194%), J
□ EADNING JOCKEYS: K Darley 27-83 (194%), J Fortune 27-23 (194%), A. Mackey 22-113 (195%),
FAVOURITES: 203-50 (37%)
SLINKERED FIRST THEE Hightes Listly (viscined, 745),
Hondry's Return (viscined, 815), LONG DISTANCE RUN-PLINKERED FIRST TIME Hubbles Lady (visored, 745) Wordy's Return (visored, 815) LONG DISTANCE PLIN-18785 Charles

NERS: Cabeharge Blue (7:0) sent 408 miles. 6.15 APPRENTICES HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,500 5f 04300 JLST BOB (6) S Nothwest 9 to 0 J Sampe (6) 8 04300 GORETSKI (13) N Triber 5 9 13 _ R Smith 2 00045 WILLIAMS WELL (6) M W Sesterby 4 8 12 _ S Fincations (6) 3 B

4 00-303 EEFF-EN (8) Mass L Persett 4.8.4 _\$ Buckley 5 5 650-00 PICCOLD CATRYO (18) No. 6 Fees 3.8.5. ___ 6 540000 CAMERIDGE BUJE (12) I Serrole 47 2 ... 9 Goods (5) 1 8
7 03000 PATHAZE (77) N Bycoti 57 10 ... J Benson 10
8 640402 DESERT NWADER (15) D Chapter 7 7 10 ... PM Chapter (5) 4
9 000 DUSH NURSE (80) A Dolen 47 10 J Bookey (5) 9
10 0000-4 SURDAY MAIL TOO (8) MSS L Perze 67 7 0

Manimum: 7st 10th. True hendicap weights: Patres 7st 5st. De-seut header 7st 7th. Duda Nums 7st 5st. Sector 2st 7st 7st. De-seut header 7st 7th. Duda Nums 7st 5st. Sector 2st 7st 7st. 2st. BETTHYC 4-1 Williams Weil, 9-2 Desert Invader, 5-1 Gord-eki, BHF-Ern, 5-1 Just Bob, Samday Med Teo. 12-1 others 6.40 MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES

O TEMPRAMENTAL (8) DH JOSES 82

02 VOLCANC STAR (10) M Bell 52 R Modern (3) 4 30 BAYARD LADY (19) D Licher 7 S Dames Medical (3) 7

(CLASS E) £4,500 2YO 5f WUJAGEN N W Easerby 86 _____T Lucas 1

7.10 CMPE GLASGOW HANDICAP (CLASS'E) £5,000 1m 0430-0 OUSET VENTURE (126) / Semple 4 10:0 502-0 ASKERN (8) D H.Jones 7 9 13 ... N Kennedy 13 CO-CC KNOSSLEENEEZE (32) M Cremon 8 9 12 . 4 000-31 FLASHTALKON FLOOD (12) Mas IJ Paveley 49 11.

5 500-6 TICKNTIMA (9) M Hammond 4 9 5 .0 Pears 11 2041-0 JONA HOLLÉÝ (J23) M. Hermond 590 . . . COS-2 THE MUNICIPALITY IN J CASES 490 . K Danley 10 8 6505-0 ROSA ROYALE (5) W Skary 48 (3 J Panning 6 9 CD-540 WAGGA MOON (6) M Entern 48.9. D Memogh (7) 15 10 02300- WANSTON (190) J Berhef 58 9 . J Carroll 1 17 322341 GENLINE JOHN (8) J Parkes 58 9 (64)

3 564-37 KATIE KOMATE (12) & Ress 5 85 F (17mh 2 V 4 00233) NOBBY BARNES (7) E 1538 9 8 5 Kim Tinder 7 \$ 0-3005 SWEET NOTE (8) L Penza 4 7 3 C Coggan (7) 12

7.45 UK PLANT SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 1m 3f 000-30 KEEP BATTLING (5) J Golde 8 9 10 LK Darley 7 20-054 GADROON (15) P Hasiam 4 9 8 ___ J Fortune 2 500-0 SPECULATIVE (11) W Storey 4 8 4 J Fortune 2 20-500 PORTITE SOPHIE (4) M Britain 7 9 3 5 00-004 THANKS KEITH (9) J.J. ONe# 38 13. J. Camp# 5

harga Bloe, 8-1 Jona Holley, 9-1 others

6 00-000 MARRIMA (11) É incisa 4 8 Ti ... Kim Tinider 6 7 604-81 BREYDON (8) P Montach 5 8 Ti (584) ____ R Mudden (3) 9 * 0-4805 HUTCHIES LADY (8) R McKeter 685 8.15 M L POWER RENTAL MAIDEN

By Andy Farrell at The Oxfordshire

SOME tournaments hand out jackets to their winners - the US Masters' green one being only the most famous example but if the Benson and Hedges International were to offer a sartorial prize, as well as its gold cup, a woolly hat would be the

Its regular spot in the calendar during the 1990s as the first British event of the year has led to boom for manufacturers of warm clothing. With that in mind, the thunderstorms which threatened Thame all morning, at least meant the temperature was a good 20 degrees higher than is usually the case for this tournament at The Oxfordshire.

But with lightning in the area, play was delayed for six and a quarter hours. Justin Rose had awoken shortly after 5am and was at the course in plenty of time for what was originally a 7.15 tee time.

The 17-year-old amateur is touted as the next great British golfer and after a nervy start when play finally got under way - he was four over after five holes - Rose recovered to finished with a 72. His level par score left him four behind Italy's Massimo Florioli and three adrift of a group, which included his playing partner, Brìan Davis.

Even experienced professionals find it difficult to find their best form after a frustrating delay and following the way he had hit the ball on the prac-



Lee Westwood tees off at the 12th hole during the first round of the Benson and Hedges International Open at The Oxfordshire yesterday

Photograph: Tony Marshall/Empics

tice range, Ian Woosnam was delighted to score a 71.

Rose, from Hampshire but South African born, hit his approach fat at the first and failed to chip and putt for his par. Another shot went at the third and

onger short holes at 208 yards, the many April deluges. Tech-Rose's two-iron bounced back nically, Rose, the youngest playoff the bank into the water. The er to appear in the Walker Cup

mistake cost him a double-bogey. when he represented Great The Oxfordshire course was Britain and Ireland last August,

experienced Paul Eales, the the way he did." Birdies followed third member of his group, was at each of his three remaining the temperament he displayed.

"As a pro, his most impressive quality was his attitude," a six-iron to a foot at the 445playing every foot of its 7,205 af- can handle such a challenge. Eales said. "He showed a lot of yard uphill last hole.

"It was a nice way to finish. at the par-three fifth, one of the ter not just the morning rain but. What was more important to the guts and patience to fight back I really enjoyed the last 12 holes," Rose said. "I was edgy par-fives and he finished with back-to-back birdies by hitting

at the start and made a couple of silly mistakes, but I moved the ball forward in my stance slightly and felt more comfortable."

In order to accept the invitation from the sponsors for this event, his third on the European Tour, Rose had to pull out of the Brabazon Trophy, a mejor event on the amateur circuit which starts at Formby today. "It was a difficult decision but this week has been a great experience already. It was an opportunity I couldn't really miss," he said.

His playing partners for a practice round on Tuesday were Lee Westwood and Darren Clarke, while he was in Jose Maria Olazabal's group in Wednesday's pro-am. Rose shot a 68 to Olazabai's 72

Yesterday, the Spaniard was again round in level par, while Lee Westwood was one better. Westwood's form has not yet sparked in Europe the way it did in America, where he won the New Orleans Classic, and he missed a number of chances with his putter.

il am not striking my driver quite as well and I have lost a bit of touch on the greens." he

Colin Montgomerie teed off at 6.20pm and was unable to finish his round.

1Trish Johnson had a 73 in the first round of the women's major, the McDonald's LPGA Championship, in Delaware, yesterday. Johnson knows she needs to show some form if she is to make her fifth Solheim Cup appearance at Muirfield Village, Ohio, in September. She has missed four cuts from nine starts in America this year. Sweden's Carin Koch headed the early European challenge on level-par 71.

Atherton ready to take international stage World Cup Nothing could be further from the truth. Cricket since the one he scored is likely to be one of the chief throughout, against Surrey at The Oval last protagonists for this summer's afternoon. If a shadow of crit-watching two contests, that of

Cricket

By David Liewellyn at Canterbury

Kent 186 Lancashire 419-8

By Jon Culley

at Trent Bridge

Sussex 324

IF ANYONE had any doubts about the state of Michael Atherton's game, they must have been emphatically dispelled here yesterday.

The popular percer

Nottinghamshire 275 and (1-3

TOBY PEIRCE, the young

Sussex batsman, describes his

relaxations as "aviation, dining

out and wine by the bottle."

which makes him sound like

some sort of latter-day Biggles,

perhaps with a dash of Bertie

kind of chap you might expect

good measure of joie de vivre.

guised it well yesterday. Having

survived a crisis on Wedneday

in which two of his partners

failed without scoring, the 24-

vear-old opener resolutely held

his ground until well into the af-

cricket as soporific as the balmy

If this is the case, he dis-

While not exactly putting

Kent to the sword — it was a somewhat blunter instrument that he wielded to great effect some bits were uninteresting, Kent's day in the field a miserable one. There were no dra-

matics from him. Not an alarm went off during his stay, which lasted seven and three quarter hours. The progress was serene.

September - was rather like sitting in one's garden and turning the pages of War and Peace; casional page it did not matter too much as there was plenty of time to pick up the plot.

In the context of Atherton's perceived situation of having to 121 with Mike Watkinson, who fight with the pack to ensure his added a bit of pizzazz to the being picky. place in the Test side, then it was Lancashire innings as he the former England captain's To watch him compile his first a fascinating read. Chapter by cracked a good-looking 87 the time, the wicketkeeper Warcareer was in terminal decline first-class hundred and indeed chapter Atherton gradually re- with a six and 14 other bound- ren Hegg, who himself went on beloed Lancashire's - and his was dismissed with contempt. his first century in any form of stored himself as someone who aries before holing out on the to reach a worthy fifty. It was own - cause no end.

series against South Africa.

It took him more than five and a half hours to reach the 45th first-class hundred of his - Atherton certainly made but if the eye skipped the oc- career and his 26th for Lancashire. There were just seven fours in the 311 balls he faced.

By then he was well on the way to a fifth-wicket stand of

icism could be permitted to pass across the sunshine of Atherton's welcome return to form, it would perhaps be that Lancashire missed out on a fourth batting point by just five runs. Maybe it was because Atherton spent 71 minutes in

hour in the 90s. But that is just Besides, he had a partner at

against a disgracefully slow

lost its way on the journey to

Cape Kennedy. It has been ab-

sorbed into a maze of scaffold-

side, a huge and mildly inebri-

ated white sausage. Characters

in hard white bats clambered

Of course, it blocks the view

Wood church through the foliage,

a sight especially dear to Gubby

through the Committee Room

windows for all those years. In

fact, the space ship, although a

apace on the upper decks of the

new Grandstand where there is

surprise, is not offensive.

At first glance, the new me-

over rate.

over it all day.

the 80s and a further half

bat against ball and man against Eventually, some time after By Derek Pringle

tea, the last page was finally turned. In attempting to cut the 404th ball of his innings Atherton succeeded only in presenting Carl Hopper at slip with a catch off Matthew Fleming. The book closed with Atherton having passed the 150 mark for tickets for sale to the public. the ninth time in his distinguished career, and he had

Peirce's stand boosts Sussex Hive of activity off the field

banging. They plan to complete it by the 18 June, the first day of the Lord's Test match. Keeo dia centre looks as if it may have your fingers crossed.

The new computerised scoreboard at the back of the Compton Stand is all the things most such scoreboards are not. ing and is lying forfornly on its It is beautifully clear and bright, startlingly accurate and tells you everything - or just about everything - you will want to know except the detailed extras. By the way, Father Time's temof some of the trees at the Nursporary home on top of the Tavery End and now there is no em scoreboard has now become chance of glimpsing the St John's

his permanent resting place. Lathwell's first innings for Allen when he ruled over Lord's Somerset this year was a fine piece of batting while Richard Johnson worked hard for his 7 for 86, his best figures since he took 10 for 45 against Derbyshire in 1994. Middlesex's Building also continues resistance then centred around Justin Langer, the obdurate Western Australian who reached a good fifty.

tickets on sale

NO DOUBT mindful of the ticketing farce surrounding the footballing equivalent due to start next month, the England and Wales Cricket Board has re-- leased half a million World Cup

However, with the first match not due to start until this time next year, decisions to buy tickets may seem a long way off. Indeed, with only 10,000 tickets available to the public for the final at Lord's, it looks as if the only decision available to ditherers will be whether to watch the match on terrestrial

or satellite television. The tournament, which begins on 14 May next year at Lord's, when England play the current holders, Šri Lanka, will comprise 42 matches. Initially the 12 teams will be split into two groups of six, each team playing the other members of their group. There then follows the Super Six part of the tournament. when the top three teams from each group play the successful teams in the other group. In all, nine matches will be played in this phase, from which the four semi-

finalists will be decided. On a good day, Lord's holds 30,000, and the final on 20 June will be brimming. As the private club which owns Lord's, the MCC will have 8,500 tickets allocated to it for purchase by its 17,000 members. The remainder of the final tickets will go to debenture holders (2,000),

SUBSEX INCOMESHARE—First In Johnson St. J D Levery 4-57).
SUBSEX — First Incoming (Destrict 46 for 3)
IN T E Friedre law b Downson
G J Actems for out
J R Caspenter run out
K Newell b Downson
K Newell b Downson
F W Jarvis Bar b Strang
J D Levery b Bowen
J D Levery b Bowen

Path 1-0, 2-0, 3-0, 4-61, 5-206, 6-223, 7-283, 8-311, 9-312

the International Cricket Council and sponsors (5,000), and overseas sales (4,000). The bad or good news, de-

pending on whether you have both the time and the resources, is that few, if any, final tickets will be available without adopting a "final linked package." This comprises a minimum of six games, including at least three in the first round of group matches. Even then, no more than four tickets will be available per application for any match, and only two for the final.

If England were to win through to the final, it would be possible to watch seven of their 10 games for as little as £190. The same amount gets you about 90 minutes of Pavarotti, or three FA Cup finals. providing you know the right

Keen to avoid accusations of crusty élitism, the organisers are calling the event the "New faces of cricket." With its catchy "Booker T goes salsa" theme tune, they are hoping to "take the game to the people with a Carnival theme.'

Anyone interested should phone 0870 606 1999, and leave their name and address. Application forms - which can be also picked up at any of the first-class cricket grounds, as well as nationwide branches of the NatWest Bank - will then be sent out. Although tickets will not be issued until April next year, a credit card line will be in operation from the end of July.

Smith inspires Leicestershire

BEN SMITH scored 121 not out to strengthen Leicestershire's stranglehold on their match with Gloucestershire at Bristol yesterday. Smith hit 12 fours and faced 211 balls before his side were bowled out for 351 - a lead of 217. Gloucestershire closed on 146 for 6, still 71 runs adrift.

The Surrey bowlers, Alex Tudor and Saglain Mushtag, ripped through Hampshire's frail batting to put their side in sight of victory at Southampton. Tudor took 4 for 32 and Saglain finished with 3 for 62 as Hampshire were dismissed in 54 overs

Maiden half-centuries by James Pyemont and captain Quentin Hughes afforded Cambridge University the rare luxury of a declaration against Glamorgan at Fenner's. Pyemont made 54 after sharing an opening partnership of 75 in 27 overs with Kent-registered Ed Smith. But the main innings of the day came from Hughes, who made 84 before falling.

may prove the foundation for a Sussex win after their brightest young bowler, 23-year-old James Kirtley, had reduced the home side to 11 for 3 last night. At the end of it all the poor

fellow was out for 96, lbw to a trundler, which was less than he deserved. You could not blame him in the slightest for being cautious. Having failed to make the most of a first day when the ball swung. Sussex in reply had Wooster thrown in. In short, the slipped to 61 for 4 by the 10th over yesterday, a highly unto wield a cricket bat with a promising position from which to attack Nottinghamshire's

However, aided in like style by 22-year-old James Carpenter, Peirce shifted the balance. It took 51 overs, but by the time umpire Roy Palmer granted Mathew Dowman his ninth ternoon, an innings spanning alfirst-class wicket (in five seamost five and a half hours of sons) and sent Peirce on his way, the two left-handers had added 147 runs. warmth in which it unfolded. It

Cricket scoreboard

Britannic Assurance

County Championship

Derbyshire v Warwickshire

Fall: 1-8, 2-138, 3-179, 4-186, 5-189, 6-106, 7-204, 8-267, 9-332

Bowling: Cark 24-3-81-1; DeFreites 29:2-7-81-3; Harris 12-0-63-2; Aldred 27-4-88-3; Clerks 4-0-10-0; Blackwell 3-1-11-1.

Palt 1-Q 2-24, 3-25, 4-80, 5-80, 5-121, 7-254, 8-141, 9-154

Bowling: Giddins 201-6-82-4; Brown 12-9-45-2; Welch 8-4-7-2; Giles 16-7-26-2.

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durbans (Spis), with seven second-bridge wichels standing, lead Ensex (4) by 195 runs. Today: 11.0.

es: J H Herrit and T E Jesty.

19-0; Blackwell 3-1-Ti-L DERBYSHINE - Second Inninge A 3 Rollins b Gliddins T A Tweets c Weich b Brown B J Spendious e Knight b Brown K J Barnett c Hemp b Gliddins V P Carries o Front b Weich HK M Kridnes c Front b Weich

P A J DeFreitos b Galdins
P A J DeFreitos b Galdins
P A Harris b Galdins
A J Harris b Galdins
Extrae (Frs. lbt), w2, rb6j
Total (55.1 overs)

Durham v Essex

Actually, it was not all dull. Carpenter, who had carefully negotiated 136 balls in making 45, smacked the next one back over Paul Strang's head to reach 51 with a six.

likely to be dislodged by any of bowlers, was almost run out three times in the 80s. Carpenter, whose 65 was a career best, ultimately depart-

ed by that method. But a platform had by then been established for Keith Newell. who scored 48, and Paul Jarvis. who made 25, to attain a lead which looked especially useful when Nottinghamshire, who had Jason Gallian under treatment for a torn groin muscle, lost Paul Pollard, the nightwatchman Alex Wharf - bagging a king pair for his trouble - and then Tim Robinson to the lively Kirtley.

A C Iran's c Speak b Harmison ... S D Peters c Speight b Wood ... 1ft J Rollins c Gough b Wood ... D R Lew c Reseberry 6 Wood ... D G Wilson c Collingwood b Bel M C Rott c Speight 5 Harmison ... IF Wilsons rott out.

20100 (b3, b6, w12, nb10)...

W-1
DERHAM - Second famings
M A Cough low is hard
M P Spenight of Hassesh is Williams
J A Delay flow is Williams
N J Spenic not out
P II Collegewood not out
Extract (62, bty, w2)
Total (flow 7, 35 owners)
Reft: 1-12, 2-33, 3-98.

Umplies: A.A.Jones and K.E. Paimer.

hire won inst

Levis 6-00, A D Musery 4-93, LECESTERS (RE - First Innings (Oversight: 245 for 5) 6 F Strift not cut - TP A Nature A Alleyte - Alleyte -

Gloucestershire v Leicester

SPESTOL: Gloscosterahin (apte, with four sec-and-invitings wickets standing, trail Laices-terahire (II) by 71 mass. Today: 11.0.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE - First landings 134 (C.C. Lands 8-80, A.D. Mullelly 4-93).

Felt: 1-8, 2-24, 3-177, 4-198, 5-201, 6-270, 7-304

Felt: 1-23, 2-41, 3-47, 4-75, 5-112, 6-115, 7-120, 8 181, 9-167.

To bet: M A Roseberry, M J Fosser, N C Philips M M Betts. J Wood, B J Hernison.

Bonding: Rott 10-1-34-0; Williams 10-4-10-2-0 R Law 8-5-0; Ingri 5-0-25-1; Wilson 3-0-16-0; Graynon 2-1-5-0.

By Henry Blofeld

Somerset 253

There was an odd passage, THE cricket went to sleep on too, in which Peirce, looking un- a warm and pleasant afternoon after the rain had claimed 20 Nottinghamshire's toiling overs at the start. It gave one the chance to have a look at all the other activities which are making Lord's such a centre of the Universe at the moment.

The poise of hammers, the metallic hiss of welding tools and the odd flash of a blowlamp kept us all on our toes.

The batsmen did not find the boundary with anything like the frequency they had managed on Wednesday. Led by a most responsible innings from Mark Lathwell, Somerset's lead of 49 still looks as if it might be significant; Middiesex batted again to try and make sure that it was not

Harripshire v Surrey
SOUTHAMPTON: Hanpahire (20th), follow
on with sight second funings vicinits attaleg, trail Surrey (8) by 393 race. Todays 11
Surrey wor fast
SURREY - Fest levings
(Overright 434 for 5)
A D Boyen by the Capan
(A) N Besty by b Mancaverhas
I D K Salkbury C Aymins b Mancaverhas
AJ Rudor b Harriey
M P Bictorial c Snigh b Udial
Sagain Musting not out

Feli: 1-118, 2-178, 3-247, 4-292, 5-295, 6-482, 7-500, 8-500, 9-601

Souther McLean 29-4-107-4; Harstry 28-0-107-1, Shephenson 5-1-23-0; Jernes 27-8-104-1; Maschernine 25-4-18-2, Udyl 272-8-94-1; Laney 20-14-0; White 1-0-6-0.

tion & Shothin

AMPSHIRE - First Inaloge W Write b Sacials S Laney by b Tudo!

X N Aymes o D Udsi o Mi

Fig. 1-4 2-54 3-60, 4-67, 5-10, 6-514, 7-175, 8-189, 9-189

Hampshire v Surrey

also a myriad of scaffolding accompanied by intermittent

To bet: J.P. Stephenson, "R.A. Smith, M. Keech, A.D. Masharenhas, †A.N. Aytnes, K.D. James, S. D. Udel, N.A.M. McLean,

pines: A Clerkyon and R Julian. Kent v Lancashire CANTERBURY: Lancastire (7pts), with one-lankings wickets standing, lead i by 233 runs. Today: 11.0. KENT - First lenings 186 (M A Eathern 73)

LANCASHIRE - First Insings Overnight: 90 for 5) If A American o Hooper b Fleming ... A Reliant's Hooper I Wastimson o Fleming b Philips ... M Washman c Feming b Philips 87
79 K Hegg not out 53
*Washin Alixan c Fulton b Pleming 7
10 Audin b Patel 7
P J Martin Foot out 2
Extras (b/2, b/2, w/2, rb-9) 25
Patel (b/2, b/2, w/2, rb-9) 519
Fatt 1-82, 2-65, 3-80, 4-80, 5-301, 6-384, 7-382

6-45: To bet: G Keedy, Bourling: Headley 25-3-67-0; Philips 19-8-59-1; Planting 19-8-61-2; Calment 18-9-38-0; Hooper 32-7-8-4-5; Pain 30-8-002; Unspiren: G I Burgoos and A G Y Whitehoud. Middlesex v Somerset

Overnight: 157 for 5) I N Leitmell & Brown b Johnson M. R. Learness & Brown D. Johnson
M. Shine b. Johnson
M. E. Descohlick, C. Brown b. Fraser
G. D. Ross o Wilesias o Praser
Markey Alemed not out
A. R. Caddick C. Brown b. Johnson
Estras (P.S. R.2. 48, nb 10)
Total (73 owens) Felt 1-31, 2-33, 3-45, 4-142, 5-152, 6-196, 7-167, 8-206, 9-253 Bowling Fraser 21-5-61 & Hewitz 20-son 23-4-65-7; Tutnell 11-2-18-0; Sh Woolee 2-0-5-Q

Felt 1-42, 2-100, 3-108 To bet P N Weekes, *1K R Brown, R L Johnson, J P Hewitt, A R C Frees, P C R Tutnet. Bowling Coddick 204-51-3; Strine 10-1-38-0; Rose 9-3-27-0; Mushen 12-3-32-0. Unspires: 0 J Constant and J W Lloyds. Northants v Yorkshire

NORTHAMPTON: Yorkshire (4pts), with three second-innings wickets standing, trail Northeeptonishire (7) by 37 rans. Today: 11.0. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE - First lys WORTH MARKET CHESTATE — F.
D. J. G. Sales & White
D. J. G. Sales & White
D. Holly Chestary & White
K. M. Carron C. Stermy b. White
A. Poses for White b. Shorth
A. Poses for White b. Shorth
A. Poses for by Gough
D. E. Malcoln b. White
D. E. Malcoln b. White
Sales & S. E. P. Z. wd. rkc30
D. E. Malcoln b. White
Debt (100.8.3 green) Fult 1-28 2-40 3-63 4-121 5-208 6-220 8-348 9-319 Bousing: Gough 28-5-62-2; Shenwood 27-6-64-1; Hatchison 25-6-69-2; White 203-5-46-5; Sheno 8-1-64-0.

8-1640.
VORRISHINE - Second Innings
A McGrath c Salay b Rose
M P Vaughen c Robey b Taylor
TO Syste Dee MacCom
M J Vaughen c Robey b Taylor
M J Valoo C A J Sesam b Taylor
S Lichnerin c Cumb b Q P Second
C Writis Dee b Q P Second
TR J Stalay not cut
R J Stalay not cut
R J Disclay not cut 77 3 CRIEDY FOX CUT

10 Gough not out

Extras (b4 1615)

12 Crist (b4 1615)

13 Crist (b7 7, 44.4 Overs)

14 This 1-53, 2-57, 3-75, 4-102, 5-105, 6-102, 7-105.

16 Bets C E W Silverwood, R D Stemp. Nottinghamshire v Sussex TRENT BRICGE: Notinghamathire (Spis), with seven second-landags wickets standing, beil Sussex (7) by 36 runs. Today: 11.0.

30, 9522
Blowflorg Bowen 305-7-79-4: Charm 23-6-61-1:
10-0: Downlan B5-33-2
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE - Second Incharge
P R Poland law hot Kirtley 0
A G Wharf & Adama b Kirtley 0
R T Robinson c Jarvis D Kirtley 0
R T Robinson D Kirtley 0
R T Robinson C Jarvis D Kirtley 0
R T Robinson D Kirtley 0 To best JER Gallian, *P Johnson, U Afzaal, 198 M Moon, P.A. Strang, M.N. Sowen, A.R. Orem. Bowling: Lewny 3-1-10-0; Kintey 2.2-1-1-3. Usepires: V A Holder and R Palmar. Vodafone Challenge Series First day of three Worcester v South Africa

WORCESTERSHIPE - First Immings W P C Weston not out V S Solenid a Boucher b Klusener -"G A Hick not out kital (for 1, 9 overs) Tell 14.
The best G R Haynes, D A Legiterolate, 18 J
ffindes, S R Lampist, M J Rammaley, P J New-port, A Sherhar, S W K Ells,
Bowling: Donald 5-2-14-0; Klusener 3-1-13-1;
Adams 1-0-4-0. Unaphres: D R Shaphard and P Wiley.

Other first-class match

Cambridge Univ v Glamorgan Cantrage University of Standorgan
FENNER'S: Glamorgan, with nine secondimings wickels standing, lead Cambridge
University by 162 parts, Rody: 11.0.
Cambridge University won tons
GLAMORGAN - First integes 342 for 4 dec
A W Exers 125. AD Star 7, A Date 59.
CAMBRIDGE 1869. - Chart femings A W Evers 125. A D Shaw 71. A Dute 59.
CAMBRIDGE LARDY - First tenings
(Overnight 19 let 0)
J P Pyennort c Evens b Daie
E T Shain o Powel b Jones
A4
G R Loverlige c Bucher b Cooker
70 Hughes c Tromas b Law
84
G R Loverlige c Bucher b Cooker
77
W J House b Law
187
W J House b Law
188
Treas Mohammad not out
187
Total flor 5 dae, 82 owers
188
Total flor 5 dae, 82 owers
188
Dai not but P Scheffer, A N Jerisch, P L Lowe,
P J Moffer, Bowling: Parkin 16-6-39-0; Jones 13-1-56-1; Coder 21-4-57-1; Butcher 12-4-90; Date 12-3-36-1; Law 8-1-29-2 (LAMORGAN - Second leadings M. J. Powel C. House b Loveridge 27-A Contry not out 42-6-1-29-1 (Parkin 17-3) (Parkin 17-3

Fall: 1-73
To bat: A W Evers, A Dele, W L Law, †A D Share
IJ Thomas, D A Codes, S P Jones, O T-Parks:
Bondos: Love 6-0-23-0; Janisch 3-0-32-0;
Loveridge 7-1-13-1; Moffat 4-0-17-0. apires: G Sharp and P Carrick.

للذا من ألاصل

Sampras surprised by Chang

By John Roberts

ETE SAMPRAS won the Italian Open title before the "Ark". which is not as long ago as it may seem, since the wooden Centre Court at the Foro Italico was completed in 1996, two years after the world No 1's impressive triumph on clay. Yesterday, however. Sampras's largely disappointing experiences on the Sport's slowest surface found a new dimension when he was outserved by Michael Chang, 11 aces to five.

The day's other surprise was sprung by Brett Steven, a 29year-old New Zealand journeyman, who defeated Spain's arlos Moya, the Monte Car-Open champion, 7-5, 6-0. "I don't think anybody in their right mind would have taken me to win," Steven said after ad-

vancing to the quarter-finals. Although many observers would have fancied the counterpunching Chang's prospects against his American compatriot, the serve is hardly his

SPENCER OLIVER yester-

to be alive after suffering life-

threatening injuries in a fight 12

tamweight champion had emer-

The former European ban-

our denied to his opponent, win-6-1, 6-1, 6-1, in the second

That was a victory for Chang's

court since then, Sampras winning 11 of their 17 matches in the interim. Solidly though Chang served yesterday in making up some of the ground lost earlier in the season because of a knee injury, his win, 6-2, 7-6, was crafted by greater confidence in his rallying skills allied to his opponent's distrust of the way the balls behaved for him. Sampras's 37 unforced errors to Chang's 13 represent the more

Sampras, in common with Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov, who double-faulted on match point in losing to the Dutchman Richard Krajicek, numbers among the players who have complained about the speed of biggest weapon. Chang has, of the balls here. But to suggest course, achieved the one hon- that the fast balls favoured

Royal Albert Hall on 2 May.

er - who was one of Britain's

accident - would die, but he has

made a remarkable recovery

and was able to walk out of hos-

The Londoner, who will nev-

pital on Wednesday.

lowing his 10th-round defeat by the truth. I feel like I've got a lucky that I'm alive."

At first, it was feared Oliv-

ning the French Open back in 1989 and dispatching Sampras, round in the process.

prodigious guile over Sampras's latent talent that would secure for him the United States Open in 1990 and nine other Grand Slams titles thereafter, four of them at Wimbledon. They had not met on a clay

Roman showdown: Michael Chang hits a backhand during his win over his old rival Pete Sampras yesterday, appears to defy logic. It was with his ground strokes accurate tale of events. that Sampras suffered most, rarely gauging the pace of his shots correctly, many of them finding the net, others flying

> long or wide. He was broken in the opening game and again for 1-4, double-faulting on break point, in losing the first set in only 28 minutes. Although Sampras

remember anything of the night

at all. I can just remember

waking up in the hospital and

thinking: 'What am I doing

here?' I just thought I'd been

knocked out - I didn't think it

was as serious as it was. They

told me afterwards that I had a

very slim chance of surviving.

Before then they didn't have

much hope for me. I'm just

'Lucky' Oliver insists he still loves his sport

Ukraine's Sergei Devakov at the second bite of the cherry. I don't

Chang's serve, as Sampras did improved during the second set, after saving three break points in the third game and another in the 11th - after successfully urging the crowd to support him instead of whistling at his errors - he was unable to build on a 2-0 lead in the tie-

break, which Chang won, 8-6. "Pete's style has never been one to beat players in long rallies, and clay has never been his

renewed calls from the medical

old said: "I think it's still got to

carry on. There's too much money involved in boxing, and

"What happened to me

doesn't change my views of

things. I still love the sport as

much as I did beforehand and

it's a great sport.

ing for his shots forced him into errors. I just tried to mix it up and play smart tennis. I don't think I'll ever win matches just by serving well."

Steven, who recovered from 1-4 in the first set to "fluster" Moya, did so by changing his tacties and slicing short shots. "It's not attractive termis, bit it worked well," the New Zealander said."I managed to keep him off halbest surface," Chang said. "Go- ance, but if we meet again at the

boxer if he wanted to be, though

The British welterweight

champion Geoff McCreesh has

been fined £5,000 by the Boxing

Board of Control after testing

positive for a banned substance

following last November's Eu-

ropean title defeat by Michele

Piccirillo in Novara, Italy. Mc-

Oliver's injuries have led to it the same. I'd let my son be a

profession for boxing to be I wouldn't force him into it be-

if I could do it all again, I'd do Creesh has lodged an appeal.

banned. However, the 23-year- cause it's a tough sport."

French Open I'm sure he will know mentally how to play me." Krajicek, the 1996 Wimbledon champion, edged Kafel-

nikov, the 1996 French Open winner, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6. Gustavo Kuerten, of Brazil, the reigning French champion, defeated the young German Tommy Haas, 6-4, 6-2, and Marcelo Rios, the Chilean world No 3, swept past Thomas Muster, the former "King of Clay", 6-3, 6-1.

Howey makes quick advance to semi-finals

Judo

By Nicola Fairbrother

KATE HOWEY put herself half-way along the road to winning the European title yesterday when she won her first two contests at the European Championships in Oviedo and reached the semi-finals.

The first match was the marker of Howey's form with the Brit up against the Italian Ylenia Scapin, who has won yesterday, the Italian hardly got a look in. Howey started the contest with a series of her trademark pick ups and leg grabs. And although Scapin did come back in the third minute, Howey had already notched up enough attacks to deserve all the referees' flags.

A clean throw, on Cata Rodrigues of Portugal, followed to show that all bodes well for Saturday's semi-final when Howey will meet Karin Kienhuis from the Netherlands. But with four bronze medals and two silvers from previous years, Howey's not taking anything for granted.

"I'm really pleased to have beaten Scapin but on Saturday will go in thinking it's my first fight again," she said. "It's then

Nicky Kiss, have taken over in Also through to semi-final the interim. amongst others, Wigan and Halifax, Pendblebury took over

bt U Kuhnen (Ger) ippon; C Labrun (Fr) bt I Luhoynska (Pol) ippon; H Rakels (Bel) bt M Van de Broek (Neth) yuko. Over 78kg: S Goudarenko (Rus) bt C Cool (Fr) yuko; R Bar-rientos (Sp) bt O Tarroson (Bela) ippon; F Harteveto (Bela) bt S Koopen (Bela) ippon K Bryant (GB) bt B Olivier (Bel) ippon. Sailing WHITEREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE

face big test can do it, and that has shown in

Rugby League

By Dave Hadfield

لمكذا من ألاصل

ONE PERSON who is completely unsurprised by Leeds' unbeaten start to the Super League season under Graham Murray is his captain at a very different club last year.

Murray's men

Robbie McCormack will hook for Wigan - also with a perfect record - in the biggest game of the campaign so far at Headingley tonight. Afterwards, he and Murray will share a beer and, no doubt, a few reminiscences about their experiences together at the Hunter Mariners.

The two steered the Mariners to the final of the World Club Championship in the club's one year of existence, after which both of them needed a new job. McCormack - heavily touted by Murray - found it at Wigan, while Murray, after Hunter's slow, lingering death, moved in at Leeds.

They're in very good form and it doesn't surprise me that Muzza's made such a good start there," said McCormack, revelling in his role at Wigan, where he is a full-time professional for the first time in his long career. "It's obviously going to be a very tough game, because they're playing in a very physical way. Their defence is very strong and the equation is that when you get that right everything else tends to fall into place."

Leeds have been criticised in some quarters for being too physical, too aggressive, with Murray admitting that they operate in a "grey area", just the right side of the rule-book, and maintain a permanent dialogue with the controller of referees, Geoff Berry.

But McCormack rejects the idea that there is anything wrong with their new approach. "I don't think you can ever be too physical, can you? That's most rigorous challenge will what the game's about - although Muzza does like the ball

sualty of the Super League sea-

what he claimed was the inability

of the board to work together,

directors to collectively work to-

gether has given me no alter-

native but to resign," he said.

board refused to communicate

with one another makes it very

difficult to work effectively and

maintain morale within the

The club, which claims to be

Hobbs and their A team coach,

A former player for,

"The fact that the three-man

"The inability of the board of

writes Dave Hadfield.

Pendlebury's exit

is shock for Halifax

become the first coaching ca- son. That proved a difficult in-

son, resigning from his job at made a respectable start this

Halifax yesterday because of time, until losing to the previ-

Sunday.

Leeds' play as well."

Like Leeds' Marc Glanville, McCormack has heard this "too rough, too tough" accusation for most of his career. The two played together for the notoriously rugged Newcastle Knights

for the best part of a decade. "We're playing games pretty aggressively at the moment." said Glanville, who was only cleared to play tonight after it was judged that his sending-off at London last Friday was sufficient punishment. "Maybe some teams can't handle that."

The Wigan coach, John Monie, is one who has witnessed the transformation from a club famous for being "soft" in the forwards when the heat was on to one that sets out to put the frighteners on opponents. "I expected it to happen whan Dean Bell was coach, but it has happened this season," he said.

In retrospect, Bell's influence probably did start to toughen up Leeds' general approach, but the full benefit has not been felt uptil this season, thanks to the extra organisation that Murray. with his experience at the top level in Australia, has been able to introduce.

No one has benefited more from the new regime than Adrian Morley, the Great Britain forward, who Murray, with his sketchy knowledge of club affiliations, was so delighted to discover was a Leeds player when he took the job.

However, Morley typifies the fine line that Leeds walk. He has been in devastatingly good nick as a runner with the ball and seemed to have climinated the tackle that hits its target too high from his repertoire. It was back, however, in last Friday's match at London.

Murray will know that Leeds' chances of sustaining their winning start beyond its depend on how well Morley and his team-mates control their to be moved around when you aggression.

troduction, but Halifax have

ously winless Warrington last

Bradford Bulls this Sunday,

Halifax will at least have the ser-

vices of their captain, Karl

Harrison. Harrison was found

not guilty yesterday for a high

tackle for which he was sent off

Jon Roper, the Warrington

centre, sent off for a similar of-

fence in the same match, was

found to have been punished

sufficiently as was Peter Gill, dis-

missed along with Leeds' Marc

Glanville for fighting last Friday.

tain London in place of Terry

Matterson, who has decided to

stand down, at Huddersfield on

That leaves Gill free to cap-

during that match at Warring-

For their next match, at the

early advantage

day admitted he felt fortunate brightest prospects before the

gency surgery to remove a er box again, revealed: "I feel

blood clot from his brain fol- a bit lucky at the moment, to tell

Equestrianism-

Boxing

Genevieve Murphy windsor

NICK SKELTON believed it was an advantage to be drawn early when he won yesterday's Samsung Electronics Speed Stakes on the opening day of The Royal Windsor Horse Show. The ground was to become heavier soaking at this long-established fixture in the Home Park.

Skelton won on Virtual Village Cartegene, one of the eight-year-old horses he is international shows of the fu- Stuart Harvey. ture. At the moment, he has no thoughts of aiming his good youngsters for the World them up to the 2000 Olympics Equestrian Games to be held in in Sydney, which is the goal for Italy in October.

Sporting Digest

The varue of the 2001 World Cham-

pionships will be decided at the international Amateur Athletic Fed-erations council meeting on Novem-ber 23. Letters of Intent to bid have

been received from Edmonton Cana-da, Moscow, Paris, Secul, Stanford

Inited States and Zagreb The desti-ation of the 2001 World Indoor

Championships will also be decided.

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Batterora 8 Cleveland; Detroit 8 Seettle 5: Kanasa City 4 Tampa bay 0: Celtisent 4 Teoroto 2 New York
Varieses Bassa & Minescus 7 Botton 4: Ansheim 8 Chicago White Sox 3

MATICINAL LEAGUE: Monitoral 9 SenFrancisco 5; Colonadi 10 Fibre—1: Atlanta
10 St Louis 2: Houston 1 Phitsburgh 0;
Chicago Cabe 9 Colonado 3; Mitseutese B Anzona 5; Los Angeles 9 Philadelphia 4; New
York Mats 4 Sen Diego 3.

ABA PLAY-OFFS: Second Round (best of seven series): Eastern Conference: Indiena 99 New York 86 (Indiena sen series 4-17): Crica-go 93 Chrotiate 84 (4-17; Chicago play Indiena In best-of-seven conference Brad).

Basketball

TODAY'S

NUMBER

£60,000

The amount a Birming-

ham punter has staked on

Arsenal winning the FA

Cup tomorrow. The man

won the sum after placing

а £30000 bet оп Cheisea.

to win the European Cup-

Winner's Cup on Wednes-

day night and if the

Gurners complete his dou-

ble, he will pocket £120000.

Athletics

Yesterday Skelton defeated 23-year-old Andrew Davies on Captain Wellington and the New Zealander, Samantha McIntosh, on Riccarda. Davies, who is making a name for himself on the home circuit, is trained by David Broome.

Tim Stockdale, temporarily out of action with a broken knee after being kicked by a horse, was at Windsor for the announceduring the contest, with the rain ment of a new sponsorship deal. providing its usual unwelcome Trandata, who make CD equipment, are injecting £1m into show jumping this year. This includes support for three riders -Stockdale Ireland's former European champion, Peter Charles, bringing on quietly for the big and an up-and-coming rider,

> three-year contract, which takes both Stockdale and Charles.

Boxing

Skelton exploits Wind turns race into lottery

Sailing

By Stuart Alexander in La Rochelle

NERVES were becoming frayed on the Whitbread race track last night as the final stages of the eighth leg from Annapolis to La Rochelle turned

Lawrie Smith in Britain's Silk Cut watching anxiously as the fickle wind caused all sorts of problems.

Grant Dalton, it had been "a dark day on board as Merit Cup

For the previous leader, had watched overnight the

into a lottery. At the front, Paul boats in the north hold [wind] from us".

No one could say with-certainty who would be first into a French town eagerly awaiting their arrival, or even when. Even more uncertain was how points would be allocated by the time all nine had finished.

Games could be health risk

Athletics

PAUL EVANS, the British marathon runner, believes the health of young athletes could be at risk if they take part in this summer's Commonwealth Games in Malaysia.

The riders have been given a Evans claims pollution levels in Kuala Lumpur could be dangerous to young competitors who will still feel they cannot miss the opportunity to take part.

officials could be doing more to find out whether it is safe for people to take part in the Games.

Speaking at the launch of this year's Great South Run in Portsmouth, Evans said he if he felt the levels of toxins in the air would harm him. "The buck is being passed on to the athlete to make up their be difficult for them to pull mind whether or not they want out."

The 1996 Chicago Marathon to take part," he said. "We are champion says British athletics being supplied with figures, but they don't mean too much to anyone.

"I'm in a position where I don't have to go if I feel my health would be at risk, but for athletes who are about 18 years old it would not he sitate to pull out would be very hard to drop out. They could be selected for their country for the first time and they would be so keen to run it would

NHL PLAY-OFFS Second round (best of

FLUS COL

Judo

taken by surprise by his decision, has asked him to reconsider. Their football manager, David

squad."

that the real business starts."

Rallying

Rugby Union

position are light heavyweight Chloe Cowen and the young heavyweight, Karina Bryant.

writions. An incomp THE WORLD RACE Eighth Lag: 1 Toshiba (US) 553 miles to finist; 2 Sik Cut (GB) 21 miles behind leader; 3 Chesse Racing (US) +27; 4 EF Education (Swe) +281; 5 Mert Cup (Monaco) +385; 6 EF Language (Swe) +447; 7 Swedish Match (Swe) +622; 8 Innovation Kwaener (Nor) +643; 9 Brunel Surrery (Neth) +748. Competitors in this year's Network Q RAC Rally will face a redesigned, short-er course. The rally will cover 237 miles on 28 timed stages, and strict limits imposed on servicing and tyre chang-ing under FIA World Rally Champi-onship rules mean that drivers will have to survive up to 38 miles of stages be-tween visits to their mechanics.

WPBSA chairman Rex Williams insisted today that the leaking of information concerning a recent failed drugs test, thought to be that of Ronnie O'Suli-van, had not come from his association. Steve Davis, Terry Griffiths and Den-

his Taylor have renewed their call for the WPSBA's chairman Rex Williams and his board to step down. A world ranking tournament will be staged in China for the first time next

son. Details are yet to be finalised Sauash

The former world junior champion, Jade Wilson, 21, was found dead in Perth, Australia, yesterday.

SUITTO
SIMMER GRAND TOURINAMENT (Tolgo, with day of 15): Kaiho (won 4 lost 1) bit Tols (1-4): Kinkanyama (3-2) bit Kotonazuma (2-3): Kyokushuzan (5-0) bit Asanosho (2-3): Dejma (4-1) bit Walanosato (2-3); Kotoryu (2-3) bit Asanosho (1-4): Kinozumi (2-3) bit Asanosho (1-4): Kinozumi (2-3) bit Asanosho (1-4): Kinozumi (2-3) bit Asanosho (1-4): Kotonosho (2-3): Kitalachidoki (2-3) bit Cojoro (1-4): Higonosimi (4-1) bit Asaniyutala (2-3): Sitalachidoki (2-3): Bit Mineriasuga (1-4): Richinovaka (3-2) bit Mineriasuga (1-3): Sitalamina (3-2) bit Mineriasuda (3-2): Dit Mineriasuda (3-2): Mineriasuda (3-3): Sitalamina (3-3): Dit Kotonowaka (3-5): Mineriasumi (4-1) bit Kotonowaka (3-5): Mineriasumi (4-1) bit Kotonowaka (3-5): Mineriasuma (4-1) bit Kotonowaka (3-5): Akebono (3-2) bit Chyotaikai (1-3). Tennis

TALIAN OPEN (Rome) Third round: G-Kuerten (Br) bt T Hese (Ger) 6-4 6-2; B Steven (M2) bt C Moya (Sp) 7-5 6-0; M Chang (US) bt P Sampras (US) 6-2 7-6; A Borssatisgal (Sp) bt B Ulfrech (Cz Rep) 7-6 4-6 6-2; M Ruos (Cri) bt T Muster (Aut) 6-3 6-1; R Krajicek (Neth) bt Y Katelrisov (Rus) 8-2 3-6 7-6; F Vicente (Sp) bt D Sangunet-li (1) 62 7-5.

AN WOMEN'S OPEN (Berlin) Third round: J Novoma (Cz Reg) bit M Sanchez Lorenzo (Sp) 6-4 6-4; A Sugiyarra (Japan) bit A Coetzer (SA) 4-6 8-2 6-3; A Koumiko-va (Rus) bit A Sanchez Vicano (Sp) 6-4 6-2. B Paulus (Aur) bit S Cacac (US) 3-6 6-3 6-3; A Mariatra (Sh) bit 1 Coeta (US) 3; A Mauresmo (Fr) bt L Davenport (US) 6-2 6-4; I Spirles (Rom) bt C Moriaru (US)

Rugby League . JUB SPORTS SUPER LEAGUE Leeds v Wiger (745).
RUGBY LEAGUE First Division: Hunslet

Today's fixtures

Football

Rugby Union WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier Division: Extended Vale v Bridgerd (70).

PREMER LEAGUE CUP: Arene Essex v Newport (20); Edinburgh v Berwick (730); Isle of Wight'v Ereier (730); Pelerborough v Asso-ing (745).

Other sports GUNESTRIANISM: Royal Windoor Horse Show.

*

85:0; 3 Virtual Village Junior (M Whitzker) and Arnel (R Whitzker) 85:3. Cob Cham-pionehip: Rob Roy II (R Christe); Reserve: Polarie (, Russel); Hunter Championship: Tradesman (G Landau); Reserve: Red Hand (N Britten), Novice Hunter Champi-onship: Centre Walk (D Tatlow); Reserve: Maynel Tumber (R Oliver). Lennox Lewis, the world heavyweight champion, is to become an advisor to the world amaisur super-heavyweight champion. Gueorgui Kandelaki, kandelaki, a 23-year-old Russian, will be promoted by Frank Maloney and Panos Ellades, the men who steered Lewis to the WBC title. Kandelaki, who stands at 6ft 3in and weighs 16st, will maj⁶, his debut at Hull Arena on 9 June.

Channel Five TV has won the exclusive live rights for Chelsea's defence of the European Cup-Winners' Cup next season. It will also have live coverage of Liverpools home games in the Usia Cup in 1998-99. Equestrianism

ROYAL WINDSOR HORSE SHOW: Sumsung Electronic Speed States: 1 Virtual Village Carlsagne (N Station) 81625ecs; 2 Captain Villagnon A. Dashen) 8287; 3 1800n Mrs King (S Michiest, N2) 6356. Hilliagn Power and Speed: 1 Namoy (G Luckett) 30(3ecs; 2 Caratt 1,1-M Nocolas, Pr) 3082; 3 Raylyn (H Luther, Ger) 313. Petplain Femily Pair Relay; 1 Golden Horzon (A Lewis) and Inzera (M Loman) 8083secs; 2 Pipalde (J Annett) and Golden Venture (N Moon)

the Uefa Cup in 1998-99.

The tormer World Cup official Philip Don is to become the Premier League's first referees' officer. Don, who officiated at the World Cup finals in the United States four years ago as well as the 1992 FA Cup final, the 1994 European Cup final and the 1995 Coca-Cola Cup final, will take up his post at the start of next season, and post at the start of next season, and will help to improve the links between Middlesbrough will have a new prich at the Riverside Stadium for their return to the Premiership in August, Work

has begun on digging up the three-

year-old pitch that was affected by heavy rain last season.
Poland's sports minister, Jacek Debsid, has dismissed 22 soccer administrators from the Polish Soccer Federation because they refused to submit to a probe of mismanenement. submit to a probe of mismanagement

The Outch Football Association has dropped Rotterdam from its venues after the city's mayor ruled that Sun-day's Dutch Cup final between Ajax Amsterdam and PSV Enchoven had to be played three hours earlier than planned. The ldck-off was moved to the afternoon because of fears of increased crowd trouble in the evening.

MCDONALD'S LPGA CHAMPIONSHIP (Delaware) First round scores (US unless stated): 68 H Dely-Donotric; M McCenn. 69 K Harvey 70 A Deluca; P Hammet B Muchs; M Radman 71.A Fruhwirth; C Koch (Swe), 73 T Johnson (OS); 74 M Spencer-Devin. ice hockey

The managing director of Manchester Storm, David Davies, has been voted on to the suscutive general board of the European Hockey League.

JUCIO

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP (Oviedo, Spain) Men's Guartar-finale: Under 608g: R Mezalev (Urb) bt C Taymens (69) ipport, N Osguna (Rus) bt M Van Costrum (Neiri) decision; O Spenijer (69) bt G Giovnazzo (fil yulor, N Khergeri (690) bt O Soutanov (Aze) poport, N Spenijer (690) bt O Soutanov (Aze) poport, D De Coomen (Neiri) bt G Gugava (690) poport, D De Coomen (Neiri) bt G Gugava (690) poport, D Morozov (Rus) bt Y Carabetta (Fr) ipport, M Hutzinga (Neiri) bt Y Carabetta (Fr) ipport, D Gueraciner (Ger) ibt V Carabetta (Fr) ipport, D Gueraciner (Ger) ibt X Koxecs (Fun) poport, I Stephine (Rus) bt L Gudo (fil ipport, D Gueraciner (Ger) ibt A Koxecs (Fun) poport, D Ebbers (Neiri) bt X L Gudo (fil ipport, D Gueraciner (Ger) ibt L Carabetta (Bet) vezza ett; R Kutsecki (Pol) bt X Cungu (Rom) (pport, D Ebbers (Neiri) bt X L Lungu (Rom) (pport, D Ebbers (Neiri) bt X L Lungu (Rom) (pport, D Ebbers (Neiri) bt X L Lungu (Rom) (pport, D Ebbers (Neiri) bt X L Sudor (Ser) bt C Soutaner-finale: Under 488g; Y Soler (Sp) bt L Mose (Rom) (pport, T Koustnivous (Fus) bt I Heyen (Bet) (pport, S Nichib-Rosso (Fr) bt G Zanstte (It) (pport, J Mosecker (Fr) pport, A Mirze-frouck (Bel) bt X variez (Fr) pport, A Mirze-frouck (Bel) bt X variez (Fr) pport, A Mirze (Fol) at U Merrin (Sp) (pport, K Howey (SB) bt C Rodrigues (Por) lepon; K Howey (SB) bt C Rodri

word Several Series of the matter pert in this year's Henley International Tournament on May 24. Fill will be joined by Western Samoa, who they best to lift this year's Hong Kong Several Hong ens crown, and Portugal

tickets have already been sold.

Weish rugby is heading for another sel-out for next weekends Swalec Cup fi-nal between Lianelli and Ebbw Vale

at Ashton Gate. 16,000 of the 20,000

World Sevens champions Fiji will take

5.30: 1, LITTLE FENCOTE (F Leahy) 13-2, 2. Grimald Led 20-1; 3. Pampered Gale 14-1. 17 ran. 9-4 fav Three Lakes. 1½, nk. (P. Beaumont). Tote: £8.50; £2.40, £13.90, £3.40. DF: £89.50. CSF: £183.07. Tric: £172.00. NR: Cuchulainn. epot: \$1210. Quedoot: \$670.

SALISBURY 3.4.1.5.0 (N) 1.45: 1. GODABI (J Reid) 3-1; 2. Mole Creek 11-8 fay; 2. March Hare 3-1. 10 nm. 11/4, 5. (M Stoute, Newmerket), Tota: \$3.00; \$180, \$100, \$2.00 OF: \$400 CSF: 6572. Tric:

fav; 2. Carmerthen 6-1; 3. Zircon 16-1 16 ran. 6, %. (M Channon, Upper Lamboum). Tota: £280; £200, £210, £410 DF: £360, CSF:

3.20: 1, SECRET ARCHIVE (Dans Chair 3.2011, Section 64 (are time) [Dane Cheef | 3-2; 2, Keltism 64 (ar. 3, Dower House 3-1 4 ran. 4, 114, 124 Herron, East Everlagh) Tota: 28.70, DF: 26.50, CSF: 25.57.
3.50: 1, PERSLAND (D Herroon) 9-4 lax; 2, Safey Aria: 14-1; 3, Young Mezzand 33-1; 4, Misty Point 8-1, 20 ran. 4, 114, 5th-Ind. (J Fernshaue, Newronian) Tota: 25.00, 52.00, 22.00, 25.70, C.2.50, C.2.50

E870, C250 DF: C2500 CSF: C3554 Treast C89327. This 254030 (part worn)
4.20: 1. ARBENIG ID Swenney) 5-1; 2. Dance To The Beat 14-1; 3. Landrig: B-1 20 rin. 11-4 fay Scotland Bay (49), 4 rk. (5 Palmy, Cowbridge) Rote: C262, E340 T840, C380 DF. C2560. CSF: C5934 Tho. C3030.
4.50: 1. SHARERA (R Franch) 6-4 fay; 2. Lucrezis 7-2; 3. Seattle Ribbon 6-1 9 ran. 11-8, 6, Cuman. Newmertan) Total C170, E150. C140, C170, DF: C360, CSF: S529 Tax: 5340. 5-20: 1. VFROMICA FRANCO (Danc Ohad) 6-1; 2. Maile-Ans-Moo 9-2; 3. Dead Aim; 11-2; 15 ran. 3-1 fay Harmony Hall (4th); 11-2; 2. PHadger, Charlester). Total: E360, E250, E211, C170, DF: E460, CSF: E2972. Incast. E4872 Tho: E360. Phacepot: E28380. Quadpot: £76360.

Placepot: C28380 Quedpot: £13690 Place 8: 642385 Place 5: £39745

INDEPËNDENT **RACING SERVICES** LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS HAVELTON (E) ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970



Carambo 94-1; 3. Bolf To Somewhere 5-1 gian; 4. Evening World 10-1 16 tan; 5-1 gian; 5-1 gian; Key Service 11-, shi-hd; 312. IC Smith, Wellingore; Toke: \$250; £150; \$250; \$250; \$230 DF: £14200 CSF; £7903 Tecan; £44553

4.49: 1. ATLANTIC DESTINY (D Holland)
9-2; 2. Guinea Hunder 5-1; 3. Calculte 11-8
faz 7 ran. 11-8; 3. 64 Johnson, Middelmani Pate:
8530: 12-20; 12-40. DF: CHISO. CSF. 12-508
5.10: 1. PRINCE OF DEBBAL IS Whiteoriti
7-1; 2 de3-14; For Your Eyes Only 11-2; Gen-erous Libra 5-2 to: 12-ms. 1, dbt. (D Arbufnor, Compton); Total 12-20; 12-27. Generous Libra 12-29. 12-27. Generous Libra 12-29. DF: CSF. 12-25-25. Compton), Totte (1920); 5270. Genericus Libra C190. For Your Eyes Only 2200 DF; Prince of Denial, Genericus Libra 2750, Prince of Denial, For Your Eyes Only £180. CSF; Prince of Denial, For Your Eyes Only £2281. Tricest: Prince of Denial, For Your Eyes Only £2281. Tricest: Prince of Denial, For Your Eyes Only £289. Prince of Denial, For Your Eyes Only £389. Prince of Denial, For Your Eyes Only, Genericus Libra £5931. Tric: £820. Jackpot: not won (pool of £2508637 camed larward to Newbury boday).
Placepot: £2840. Genericus £5500.
Place &t £28408. Place \$1,5797.

PERTH 2.25: 1. TERDAD (P. Note): 7-4 fav.; 2. Count Karmunski 9-4; 3. Lay The Blame 11-1 8 fam. 5 hd. (Mrs Ni Randey): Role: 12-30; C10; C10; C10; D10; C20; D15; C56; Ticast: 226; Ticast: 226;

3.00: 1. TARAJAN (R Johnson) 9-2; 2. Battery Fired 9-2; 3. Tawafij 12-1 10 ren. 3-1 fav Adamatic (pulled up), 11/4, 8. (Miss Lucinds V Russell), Tote: £540; £210, £170, 52.20 DP: \$12.80 CSF: \$22.75 Tro: \$4770. 3.30: 1. SUPERTOP (W Dowing) 11-2; 2. Joe Shaw 7-2 it tax; 3. Steath The Cash 7-2 it fax 7 ran. 1, 8 (L. Lungo). Tote: £690; £340, £200. DF: £950. CSF: £2204. 4.00: 1. STAGE FRIGHT (A P McCoy) 9-4

Coy) 1-4 fax; 2. Rocket Run 12-1; 3. More Champagne 6-1 6 ran. 8, 14 (F Murphy). Rose: £130; £140; £240; DF: £340; CSF: £480. NR: Brother of kis.
5.00: 1. ASTRAC TRIO (Mss A Bowle)
11-8 tar; 2. Harden Glen 10-1; 3. Arctic
Leader 20-1 11 ran. 2, 21 (J Bowle). Tota; \$200; \$150, \$300, \$410 OF: \$1110 CSF:

ast: £114.17, Trio: £104.00 (part won).

fav; 2. Kalajo 14-1; 3. Tough Test 4-1 10. ran. 2. nk. (F Murphy). Tota: £220; £160. 2490, £170. DF: £22890. CSF: £3155. Tric-2.15: 1. FRANCO MINA (A Mackey) 5-2 4.20: 1. STONED IMACULATE (AP Mc-

1086 (228), 1200, 1210, 1210, 1210, 1210, 125; 1283, 170; 12400, 1245; 1. SALIGO (C Rutter) B-1; 2. Mayassir 9-1; 3. Similat 5-1 fav; 4. Coolin Rher 14-1, 18 ran, 17k, 17k, hd. (H Morrison, East Sey), Tota: 1770, 1190, 1180, 1180, 1230, 1250, 1257, 1270, 125

Bergkamp has Wembley in his sights

Football

By Glenn Moore Football Correspondent

DENNIS BERGKAMP will wake up in Arsenal's London hotel tomorrow morning, carefully get out of bed and gingerly stretch his limbs. In that moment he will know if he is to play in tomorrow's 117th FA Cup final.

The Dutch striker is more optimistic about his fitness than at any time since he damaged

United remain in the balance.

After joining in a full training session for the first time yesterday he said: "I'm happy that I'm still in with a chance, but I'm still thinking about the injury when I train. I will push it harder tomorrow and I will know as soon as I stand up on Saturday morning whether I am fit. I want to play but I have to

be 100 per cent fit." Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal

days ago. However, his chances but a practice match is not a cup He knows how important this player but, if he is not fit, he canof playing against Newcastle, final We can't recreate that in- game is for Arsenal." tensity 48 hours before the be a gamble. Fortunately the in-

jury is superficial not deep. "I'm encouraged that he wants to play. He is thinking only of Arsenal and not of the the World Cup.

er to cheat and tell me he is fit when he is not. He will have to his hamstring against Derby 16 he has recovered this much and he will be honest with me. everybody. He may be a huge

Wenger then underlined the game so, if he plays, it will still importance of Bergkamp, who made a brief appearance in west London to receive his Football Writers' Player of the Year award last night. "He is a leader on the field. He is easy possibility of injuring himself for to find in the game for defenders and midfielders. He gives "I will make the decision, but them an option when they have I know he is not the sort of play- the ball and that improves the confidence of the team. He is creative with his passing and can manager, said: "I am surprised be comfortable with his body score goals. But he is like

not play."

Arsenal have no other injury worries, although lan Wright is still short of match fitness and, said Wenger, "he might not last the whole game". This means Wenger is unlikely to take the risk of starting with both Wright and Bergkamp. Wright could be a substitute, but Bergkamp will

Newcastle appear to be injury-free, though little news was emerging from their training camp. Of the two, Arsenal's build-up appears more re-

Hertfordshire sunshine after training and took turns to meet the press. Tony Adams was expansive; Martin Keown thoughtful; Patrick Vieira a mixture of intensity and smiles; Emmanuel Petit, dressed all in white like a latter-day Jean Borotra, confident and phleg-

Petit, now recovered from Don Hutchison's crude tackle 12 days ago, said he believed coming to England had cost him a place in the World Cop but it was still worth it. This sur-

laxed. Yesterday they sat in the prising assertion was given weight by his evident enjoyment of the ambience and much else to do with the English game. Petit, like Vieira and Nico-

las Anelka, is in Aimé Jacquet's preliminary 28-man squad, but he said: "He [Jacquet] thinks players are much better if they are playing in Italy so it will be very difficult for me, Patrick and Nicolas. He has his team, his players. I don't think he's even been here to see us, though his

"He thinks the best players

in the world are in Italy. There are so many great players there but, for me, it's not so good because it's so boring. When I'm watching it I have to reach for the remote control and turn over. I could have gone to linky but I prefer England. The football here is like life. I can be me. It is a joy to play and never bor-

"If I don't make the World Cup I will still be France's biggest supporter but I will be on the beach, with my friends and some wine."

1952 revisited, page 28

Liebenberg starts with 前算登得前 a flourish

Cricket

By Derek Pringle in Worcester

South Africa 287-4dec

v Worcestershire 31-1

THE OMENS were looking good for England, after South Africa ended their opening day of the tour 287 for 4 declared. Normally visiting teams come to Worcester, acknowledge the impressive 11th Century cathedral, perhaps partake of the sumptuous teas, and get roundly thrashed. They then manage, as Australia did last season. to go on and turn the tables against the national side and win the Test series by about the third or fourth Test.

As first outings go, South Africa will have every right to be pleased with themselves as three of the top four passed fifty. The classiest offering, by some distance, came from Daryll Cullinan, who ended unbeaten on 67, though both Jacques Kallis, with 75, and Gerhardus Liebenberg (98) made up for points captain, Tom Moody. lost to style with a steely determination during a tricky first session.

Following a hectic winter over es were played, south Africa have lett themselves just five playing days before their first international. With Shaun Pollock nursing a slight abdominal strain and Brian McMillan Test side England will face at Edgbaston on 4 June, but it was close.

A few matches may not seem long to acclimatise, but with Worcestershire's bowlers straying a yard too short on a misty morning ideal for bowling, the batsmen probably feel at home already. Indeed had the South African captain, Hansie Cronje, not been seeking the chance of two innings

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for his batsmen, he would surely not have resisted the temptation to bowl first after winning the toss.

Peversely, things began well for the home side when the evergreen Phil Newport, swinging the new ball, had Gary Kirsten caught at bat pad by Matthew Rawnsley for one. Instead of running through their opponents as they do most years, the home side had to wait almost four bours for their next success, when Kallis was bowled driving past a good one from Alamgir Sheriyar that came back sharply off the seam.

Kallis settled quicker than his partner Liebenberg, who had a period where most of his scoring strokes ended up at third man.

At 26, Liebenberg is, along with Kirsten, the Test opener in residence, playing in both Tests against Sri Lanka during April. A tall cautious player, Liebenberg's demise, two runs short of his century, probably surprised him as much as anyone else after he top-edged a slog off Graeme Hick, deputising for the injured

The catcher was Rawnsley who, deputising for the injured Richard Illingworth, had a hand in three of the which 11 Tests and 22 one-day match-four dismissals. Rawnsley was also primarily responsible nan's change of mind did not helpfor running out Cronje. Unfortunately it had little to do with his bowling which Cullinan, in particular, cloutrested, it was probably not quite the ed to all parts of New Road, including a thumping flat six over long-off.

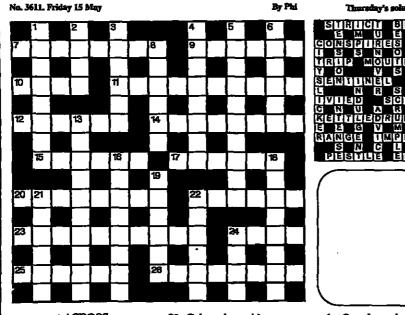
Set a tricky 40 minutes to bat, Worcestershire quickly lost Vikram Solanki, caught on the crease by the slippery-paced Lance Klusener. At the other end Allan Donald bristled but did not strike and Hick took a brace of fours off the fast bowler that even Graham Gooch, watching here as a selector, would have been proud of.

South Africa increase their total in the shadow of Worcester cathedral

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

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- 7 Police officer taking on aus-
- tere area (8) 9 King to take refuge in a fake religious establishment
- 10 Composer's live recital's opening - good (4) 11 Supplies plough that's im-
- mobile (10) 12 Doctor on boat? Capital (6) 14 Greek and American followed by Scot (8)
- 15 British farming concern has local office (6)
- 17 Shade open wide, having yard covered (6) 20 Ancient jugs in a hamper
- served up with love (8) 22 Humming tops in spinning may easily turch list and yaw (6)
- glance, startled, round front of newspaper (5, 5)
 24 Stupid craze receding with
- time (4) 25 Chap in queue, without question, full of information
- 26 See game around Northern Scottish location (4,4) DOWN One eventually goes off damaging property in the local area (4-4)
- 2 Men-only phase should be curtailed (4) Bob spotted a puzzle (6) TV programme - see host walk unsteadily (4-4)

Knowing about alterations

to the ion interference?

(5, 5)

- 6 Stew bound to be overturned - look! (6) Hard worker a bit upset before start of year (6) 13 Support for duds makes
- Conservative curse with rage (4-6)
 16 Musical song contains some purpose (8) 18 Swimmer getting first
- place (first in freestyle is hard) (8) 19 Writer takes most of coins I left (6) Mother capturing ani-
- mal in large bottle (6)
 22 The terrible smell is fish 24 Effort giving some good in time (4)

Banks floats idea of football regulator

Sports politics

THE sports minister, Tony Banks, yesterday floated the idea of a new football regulator to guard fans from exploitation by clubs. He told a committee of MPs that football was not like other products, in that fans could not switch clubs in search of lower prices.

Fresh from celebrating Chelsea's European Cup-Winners' Cup victory in Stockholm, Banks told the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee he had just paid £1,250 for a season ticket to Stamford Bridge next season.

It was, he said, a lot of money. Put to him that a ticket for Watford would cost less, he said he would still support Chelsea, even if he had won the election he fought unsuccessfully in 1979 to become Watford MP.

"Football isn't just another product," he said. "You can't just say it's like a car or a refrigerator where you just switch brands. You can't do that with football. so football has a responsibility."

Asked what could be done to ensure fans got value for money in terms of ticket prices, merchandising and broadcast- kits costing the club £5 that

ing of matches, he said: "There could be sold to fans for £50.

are ways this could be done. "If we recognise football is not like any normal product, because it isn't just something we can switch in and out of, we could introduce a regulator. It's not government policy but it's a possibility.

"We interfere in the market for public utilities, because we recognise their role in the economy is different from other products. You can't survive without electricity and water so you can't let free market forces rip in this area. I suspect you could survive without football though some people would

Banks said the football Task Force would also be considering the question of ticket prices and merchandising.

"It will be a very difficult area, but the mere fact that we can't solve all the problems to everyone's satisfaction isn't an excuse for not looking at the problems. I feel that we as politicians can assist the organisers of sports to recognise there is a long-term interest."

He referred to allegations that two Newcastle United directors had boasted of replica for the British Olympic Com-

Banks said: "If that sort of level of exploitation is taking place, I think politicians, whether we like it or not, will be forced to intervene, because that's gross exploitation.

"We owe it to the people we represent to at least make sure they are not exploited in such an appalling way." After the hearing, Banks

stressed to reporters that, on the issue of the regulator, he had been expressing just a personal opinion in reply to an MP's question, and he conceded there could be practical problems with the idea.

The sports minister also said he would like a return of the annual England-Scotland home internationals, which stopped largely because of hooliganism.

"Now we have so improved our stadiums and safety regimes in this country and Scotland, I think the time is now right for the oldest international fixture in the world to be restored."

Banks also said he thought 2012 might be an appropriate year for London to host the Olympic Games, although he said bidding would be a decision

Fowler out of action 'until Christmas'

By Catherine Riley

NO SOONER had his injurycurtailed season ended than Robbie Fowler was told he would be facing the rest of the year without football.

Following a clash with the Everton goalkeeper, Thomas Myhre, during the Merseyside deaby at Anfield in February, the Liverpool striker suffered knee cartilage damage which kept him out of the remainder of the season and ended his hopes of playing in the World Cup finals.

There were some reports that he had visions of playing pre-season, but he certainly won't be playing before Christmas. That is the estimation at the moment," the Liverpool physiotherapist, Mark Leather, said yesterday.

"At the moment he is exercising, jogging out of a brace, weight-lifting and doing plenty of pool work. He is still ahead of schedule at this stage but he will certainly not be playing firstteam football until the later stages of the year."

It means Fowler will also friendly against Internazionale at Anfield on 4 August. The game is part of the deal which

Premiership runners-up Manchester United are still hopeful of signing the Cameroon international Marc Vivien Foe from French champions Lens. The United club secretary, Ken Ramsden, said: "We haven't confirmed a deal with his chub yet so there is no progress there. It is still ongoing."

Despite relegation to the First Division, Crystal Palace look certain to become the third club to benefit from Cheisea's European success by qualifying

for the InterToto Cup.
Aston Villa moved into the Uefa Cup courtesy of Chelsea's European Cup-Winners' Cup victory over Stuttgart on Wednesday, ruling the Midlanders out of having to compete in the InterToto Cup to gain a place in Europe. Palace were the only Premier

League club apart from Villa to express an interest in the pre-season tournament and unless another club declares an interest before the deadline for entries of 2 June, it will be Palace who try to secure one of three places on offer in next season's Uefa Cup. It will not be easy for them,

however. The Eagles would need to win three two-legged matches, culminating in the finals on 11 August and 25, to secure a Uefa spot. Palace's European adven-

tures will take place without Tomas Brolin, however. The Swedish international has been play no part in Liverpool's released by the Selhurst Park club he joined in January. The former Leeds and Par-

ma player has been unable to recapture his once deadly form from the San Siro last summer. and fitness and failed to score in 15 appearances for the Eagles, nor did he play in the last three games of the season when relegation was confirmed.

Palace have also released four other players: Patricio Billio, who was a non-contract player, Rory Ginty, Richard Kennedy and David Stevens. McLeod's ambition, page 28

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